Daily Report

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Shultz Remarks Cited on Treaty Preparation
LD112124 Moscow TASS in English 2059 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Washington February 11 TASS—U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz sounded optimistic in his assessment of the possibility for achieving a Soviet-U.S. agreement on a 50 per cent cut in strategic offensive weapons. Speaking to a group of American reporters on Wednesday, the U.S. Secretary of State admitted, however, that "a tremendous amount of work remains to be done" before such an agreement is ready for signing.

Shultz stressed in the interview that the administration would "not cut corners in the end just to get an agreement." The sides' positions on SDI are one of such "corners".

Zagladin on Arms Reduction's 'Important Tasks'
LD081258 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1109 GMT 8 Feb 88

[Text] Berlin, 8 Feb (ADN)—"We must not stand still, the disarmament process must be continuously advanced," Vadim Zagladin, CPSU Central Committee member and CPSU Central Committee International Department first deputy chief, said today in an interview with the GDR newspaper DER MORGEN.

In an interview on the next most important tasks in arms reduction, Zagladin said: "We want simultaneous forward movement in various directions. The next immediate step would be the halving of strategic offensive weapons while observing the ABM Treaty, and parallel to this negotiations must be held on conventional weapons. Parallel to this the work in Geneva on the banning and destruction of chemical weapons should be continued. The fourth direction should be what we call 'Stockholm 2' which is the working out of confidence-building measures in the military area."

One of the "strongest sides of this policy" was that there was an organic connection between "the general course in principle of the socialist countries, which is developed and realized jointly, and the initiative of every individual state," Zagladin continued. This connection has proved itself to be most fruitful.

"I am, for example, thinking of the GDR's proposals which are an important contribution to the common cause of the initiatives for the creation of a nuclear-weapons-free corridor and a chemical-weapons-free zone in Central Europe. We also see the great significance in the visit to the FRG by Comrade Honecker which was then followed by the ideas contained in the letter to Federal Chancellor Kohl."

Referring to the chances for a speedy ratification of the treaty on intermediate-range missiles in the United States, Zagladin said: "I think even the strongest opponents of this treaty, who are campaigning very actively and with great financial means, themselves do not seriously count on being able to torpedo the ratification." However, thay had the no less dangerous interest of compromising the possiblity of a follow-up meeting to sow distrust.

Kokoshin Discusses Space Weapons Programs,
DW100821 Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 8 Feb 88 pp 130-138

[Interview with Andrey Kokoshin, deputy director of the United States and Canada Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences, by editors Siegesmund Ilsemann and Hans Hoyng "During Kokoshin's Visit to Washington"]

[Text] SPIEGEL: Professor Kokoshin, shortly before his summit meeting with Ronald Reagan in Washington in December last year, party leader Mikhail Gorbachev said, "we are doing exactly what the United States is doing." The admission that your country is also working on space weapons must be frustrating to you as one of the leading Soviet SDI critics. is it not?

Kokoshin: You are interpreting the general secretary's statements wrongly. It is true; he admitted that we carry out basic research in areas similar to those in which the Americans are working. But that does not mean the USSR has or will have a program similar to SDI. That has been repeatedly stressed by Gorbachev, including in the interview you cited.

SPIEGEL: Moscow has for many years spread panic worldwide about SDI. U.S. proponents of space weapons therefore have always been able to tell their critics that even the Russians considered SDI feasible, otherwise they would not be so afraid of it. By its admission of conducting space weapons research itself Moscow now supplies Washington's arms proponents with another convincing argument.

Kokoshin: In the early eighties, some of our arguments about SDI may have been more nervous and vociferous than would have been in the interests of relations between our countries. Some people also paid too much attention to the program, because our experts thought it threatened to further complicate the military-strategic relations between the United States and the Soviet Union; they are very complex anyway. But presumably many of us have overreacted, even though the critics are basically right. I am also a declared opponent of such develoments—on both sides.

SPIEGEL: Does that mean you also denounce the Soviet space weapons research Gorbachev surprisingly confessed?

Kokoshin: Such research is important to understand what the United States is doing, and it is the basis of our asymmetric response to SDI—a large number of countermeasures. I am one of the people who determine and represent our response.

SPIEGEL: Then why all the excitement? The United States is also currently only doing basic research.

Kokoshin: The SDI program is by no means mere basic research. It is aimed at the development of a multiple-stage weapons system, with the focus being on space-based elements. Soviet represnetatives have repeatedly said we will continue working on traditional missile defense systems of the type installed around Moscow. That has nothing to do with SDI. In the second part of the remark cited by you, Mikhail Gorbachev stated clearly that our response to SDI—which would at any rate be cheaper—will be different from what the Americans may be expecting.

SPIEGEL: What will it be?

Kokoshin: For the present, we consider electronic warfare the most promising defense because we do not know what weapons the United States would deploy in space. However, defense measures against a specific type of weapons is possibly ineffective against other weapons.

At any rate the United States would need a complex strategic system, including communications and sensors for target spotting and tracking. The technical principles of such devices are largely known. Electronic warfare has great potential to interfere with radio and laser, upset computers, feign sham targets, and many other things. The technical means to do all that exist.

SPIEGEL: Are you not planning to develop counterweapons?

Kokoshin: We should not consider such weapons for moral reasons. I am confident we will also be able to paralyze the SDI monster without destructive means. If we cut the connections between the individual elements the whole huge apparatus would be out of operation. We would cripple SDI without destroying the systems. However, as an additional safeguard, other countermeasures would possibly be necessary.

SPIEGEL: According to Pentagon estimates, the Soviet Union has invested about $80 billion in nuclear missile defense systems in the past 10 years. What did you do with that huge sum?

Kokshin: Experience has shown that the U.S. military is capable of fabricating any figures. Their arithmetic geniuses just multiplied their estimates of the totals of our civil defense, air defense, and missile defense expenditures. In that way Washington wants to make the public believe that the Soviet Union has spent huge sums on SDI-type space weapons.

SPIEGEL: But the United States criticizes specific weapons, does it not?

Kokoshin: Well, do you not know what Washington calls the Soviet variant of SDI? They cite the "Galosh" missile defense system around Moscow and the large radar facilities that form part of the system. Finally, they cite our inadequate antisatellite system, which has not been tested for 5 years—to mention the most important components. That cannot be compared at all with the U.S. SDI plans. SDI comprise space-based laser and particle beams, huge mirrors in space, and kinetic weapons; it is a comprehensive structure for target spotting and tracking and a strategic system. The U.S. SDI proponents have found nothing comparable in the Soviet Union—nothing that they could have presented in their propaganda booklets.

SPIEGEL: The USSR has large laser laboratories near Saryshagan.

Kokoshin: The so-called artistic representations that show our facilities with extremely strong laser beams are dishonest because the facilities there do not have such capacities. I think serious U.S. experts know that.

SPIEGEL: You do not mean to say, do you, that your scientists there are experimenting with nice little medical lasers?

Kokoshin: I would not say medical lasers. Those lasers serve to track objects in space.

SPIEGEL: How about the facilities on a high mountain near Dushanbe near the Afghan border, that the Western public was informed about only recently by satellite photos?

Kokoshin: It certainly is not what some western sources have made of it. Strictly speaking, there are even two facilities on the Tajik Mountain called Sanglok. One of them, the Astronomic Laboratory of the Astrophysics Institute, is already in operation. An optoelectronic facility to control objects in outer space is under construction. The opticoelectronic instruments will only work passively.

SPIEGEL: No matter what Moscow is doing near Dushanbe—there is no doubt that both superpowers are secretly working on a strategic defense system....

Kokoshin: We are not secretly working on SDI weapons.

SPIEGEL: If there were no secret projects, your military would be remiss in its profession. Such projects have been under way for many decades; they will continue and in our experience sooner or later be translated into new weapons. In view of that fact, is the demand for a ban not an illusion?

Kokoshin: No. In the past, developments have been stopped, even though they produced an immense technological thrust. Let me remind you of the extremely

important partial test ban treaty of 1963 banning underwater nuclear tests and nuclear tests in air and space; or the 1967 treaty banning the deployment of nuclear weapons and other mass destruction weapons in space.

Even though both sides at the time had the technology, they renounced using them because they realized that otherwise they would be violating vital interests. I hope very much that we will become wiser and restrict other technological developments.

SPIEGEL: At the time we only failed to take advantage of opportunities the military-technological yield of which was doubtful. Regarding SDI, however, laboratories in East and West work on new technological territory, the strategic importance of which has not been totally explored.

Kokoshin: That is why we should discontinue the race for space weapons before it has really begun. If the United States were to share our belief, it would be an enormous step forward, because once the initial steps have been made toward developing weapons the weapons engineers will exert enormous pressure to continue the work.

SPIEGEL: But was the race for new nuclear missile defense systems not started long ago? Is not the real task now to agree to get the race under control, as was also done in earlier arms control agreements?

Kokoshin: I still hope the whole development can be stopped. Specialists from all scientific areas in the Soviet Union study every reduction opportunity. The most radical solution of course would be to discontinue space weapons research and open the laboratories to inspection in the long run. Soviet representatives suggested that in the negotiations, just as they suggested that every launch of a spaceship should be supervised on site. That, together with pre-launch verification, would allow us relatively reliably to verify observance of an agreement banning weapons in space.

SPIEGEL: The influential U.S. Senator Sam Nunn has now suggested a mini-antimissile system, as a safeguard against erroneous or unauthorized missile launches, and possibly even against attacks by small Third World nuclear countries. Would that not be interesting for your strategists as well?

Kokoshin: We have thought about it and also discussed it with the Americans, who ceased long ago to view SDI as Reagan's antimissile umbrella in space. The "Committee of Soviet Scientists for peace and Against the Nuclear Threat" has not totally rejected the idea, because it is not absurd. But in due respect to Senator Nunn I must say that the idea is only convincing on the surface. Even a limited, thin missile defense system that is spread widely over the country endangers strategic stability. If both sides maintain such a safeguard in addition to the limitations under the 1972 antiballistic missile (ABM) Treaty, they would have to suspect that the other side could misuse that as an initial step toward a comprehensive system.

SPIEGEL: That could be countered by some of the numerous controls you are offering.

Kokoshin: Why all the effort if the result will produce so little? For terrorists or Third World countries instead of technically complicated missiles there would be much simpler, cheaper, and safer means to delight us or the Americans with an atomic explosive. Trucks, ships, or planes could transport primitive, bulky nuclear bombs much better. A defensive system in space would not help against that. It would only be an enormous waste of money.

SPIEGEL: However, a nuclear missile could be launched against the enemy if a submarine captain who had gone mad pressed the red button. Is a minimum defense not justified by the opportunity at least to prevent such unimaginable destruction?

Kokoshin: Fortunately there are technical solutions I described together with Yevgeniy Velikov and Roald Sagdeyev in the book "Space Weapons: Security Dilemma" [title published in English].

SPIEGEL: You mean self-destruct installations by which missiles could be destroyed by radio after having been launched?

Kokoshin: That is part of it. They exist already. Both sides should cooperate somewhat to prevent erroneous or unauthorized launchings of missiles. Only such missiles should be deployed that have such safeguards, for example.

SPIEGEL: The U.S. Congress is increasingly cutting the SDI budget. None of Ronald Reagan's possible successors will promote his pet project so much as the current president. Serious experts do not expect that any space weapon will be deployed in this century. Why does Moscow not concentrate on halving its strategic arsenals, leaving SDI to rot away?

Kokoshin: We also concentrate on strategic weapons, on the size of the armed forces, conventional armament, and chemical weapons. We cannot, however, ignore that SDI threatens to undermine strategic stability and the ABM Treaty.

SPIEGEL: If the danger were really that great, Mikhail Gorbachev would have hardly stated prior to the December summit that SDI was no issue for him.

Kokoshin: To be exact, Gorbachev said that SDI is not an issue for Soviet-U.S. negotiations. It does not, however, mean we do not maintain the same negative attitude toward SDI as before. We are concerned about

adherence to the ABM Treaty in its traditional, narrow interpretation. The U.S. President emphasized in the Washington summit communique that the ABM Treaty will be adhered to in the sense it had been signed in 1972.

SPIEGEL: The Americans consider the formulation only an agreement to disagree. From this they deduce the privilege of a broader ABM interpretation that would not place any obstacles in the way of SDI development.

Kokoshin: Nuances become very important here. The treaty interpretation on which the communique is based says literally: "As it was signed in 1972." There is another detail in that final document that must not be ignored. Adherance to the ABM Treaty in the spirit of 1972 is being called the prerequisite for halving the number of strategic offensive weapons. Legally this linkage has the same value as the common commitment accepted in Reykjavik, to reduce strategic weapons by 50 percent.

SPIEGEL: But the document also says that research is permissible "as necessary."

Kokoshin: We have nothing against that for now. SDI is not a subject of Soviet-U.S. negotiations, even if I am a most decisive opponent of that program. However, as long as the laboratories are not opened, we cannot control what is going on there anyway. They continue their space weapons research, and we continue to work on our concept of asymmetrical countermeans.

SPIEGEL: Then the U.S. interpretation is correct?

Kokoshin: When the research work and developments progress beyond a certain limit, they will violate the ABM Treaty and prevent—which is even worse—further nuclear disarmament. Therefore we want to negotiate with the Americans on where they see the limits of the ABM Treaty in the form it was signed in 1972.

SPIEGEL: First Moscow condemned the SDI idea as a violation of the treaty, then your negotiators considered laboratory work permissible. Since last fall the Kremlin has not insisted on basically prohibiting tests outside the laboratory and before the summit meeting even space tests did not seem to be a sacrilege any longer. Does not so much flexibility support Washington's hardliners, who always said that if we just remain firm the Soviets will make more concessions?

Kokoshin: Adherence to the ABM Treaty and its substantiation were always a priority for us. We will remain firm on that.

SPIEGEL: However, the Soviet attitude has changed nevertheless.

Kokoshin: We have become increasingly optimistic about being able to face the space weapons threat. We believe we can maintain the strategic balance even if the Americans continue their work on SDI....

SPIEGEL: ...and praise their successes?

Kokoshin: Some bad things are being developed that will create some headaches for us. Therefore those people are completely right who say the basic idea of space defense is wrong. However, first we must insist upon adherance to the ABM Treaty, and in this respect we have taken an important step with the U.S. signature on that commitment.

SPIEGEL: In the United States, however, it looks as if Ronald Reagan with his SDI idea was driving the Soviet Union from one concession to the next.

Kokoshin: If we managed to halve the strategic arsenals, to preserve the ABM treaty, and keep weapons out of space, all the talk that the Soviet Union has yielded to the U.S. administration would not bother me.

SPIEGEL: Will your government make even more concessions to achieve those goals?

Kokoshin: I see no substantial concessions from our side that go to the heart of the matter. I am firmly convinced that there will be no such concessions.

SPIEGEL: Do you hope that with Reagan's successor it will be easier to achieve a satisfactory result?

Kokoshin: The Soviet leadership has already proven that it will try to conclude disarmament treaties with any U.S. president, regardless of what party he belongs to and what label he bears. There is so much at stake for the world we cannot afford to wait for the next president.

SPIEGEL: How will Moscow react when the Americans make the first SDI test that will clearly violate the limits of the traditional interpretation of the ABM Treaty?

Kokoshin: In the summit meeting month of December, President Reagan signed the budget law in which the United States commits itself not to permit such tests for the time being. Beyond that we must make agreements that will prohibit such tests in the future.

SPIEGEL: Professor Kokoshin, we thank you for this talk.

NATO's Galvin Urges Arms Modernization

LD111215 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0620 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] London, 11 Feb (TASS)—TASS correspondent Sergey Kuznetsov reports:

A substantial increase in military spending on the modernization of NATO's nuclear arsenals has been demanded by John Galvin, supreme Allied commander of the bloc's armed forces in Europe. Within the framework of his trip around the capitals of the West European countries in the Northern Atlantic Alliance the U.S. general visited London on Wednesday where he was received by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Addressing the senior officers of the British Armed Forces on Wednesday, Galvin claimed that the scrapping of intermediate- and shorter-range missiles envisaged by the Soviet-U.S. treaty would create "significant gaps" in the bloc's defense which ought to be "closed" through the modernization of the nuclear arsenals the West still has. The U.S. General insisted in particular on the development of new air-based missiles, the modernization of "lance" tactical missiles and battlefield nuclear weapons, as well as of other types of armaments. NATO countries including Britain ought to be increasing military spending for this purpose, Galvin pointed out.

The supreme allied commander of NATO armed forces in Europe spoke in support of creating a mixed Franco-West German brigade and a joint defense headquarters of the two countries. He made it understood that an expansion in defense cooperation between France and the FRG would promote reinforcement of the "European buttress" in the North Atlantic Alliance. France's military doctrine is "very dear" to NATO, the U.S. general stressed.

As London THE TIMES points out, Galvin's speech is patently timed to coincide with the forthcoming elaboration of detailed plans for Britain's military purchases and the meeting in Brussels of the NATO heads of state and government planned for this March. The paper notes that British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has been fighting for the modernization of the bloc's nuclear arsenals for a long time.

Seven Countries' Delegates Attend CW Seminar

LD112127 Moscow TASS in English 2056 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Geneva February 11 TASS—A seminar on chemical weapons and methods of verification and the mechanism of the future international convention opened in the Palace of Nations today. Speakers at the seminar will include heads of delegations from seven countries taking part in the work of the Geneva Conference on Disarmament: Brazil, Sweden, France, Poland, the Soviet Union, Poland [as received] and West Germany. Members of other delegations and representatives of some international, government and many non-government delegations will take part in the discussions.

UN Preparatory Committee Concludes Work

LD061059 Moscow TASS in English 1040 GMT 6 Feb 88

[Text] New York February 6 TASS—By TASS correspondent Vyacheslav Chernyshev:

The preparatory committee for the 3rd special session of the U.N. General Assembly on disarmament to be held in New York on May 31-June 25 completed its work on Friday.

The committee focused its attention on drafting the final document of the special session.

The work of the preparatory committee was marked in general by constructiveness and business-like spirit.

Many delegations, including from non-aligned countries whose views were identical on the whole or close to those of the socialist countries, were very active in the committee, the TASS correspondent was told by the head of the Soviet delegation, B.P. Krasulin.

"As a result, a good basis was established for the successful holding of the special session which as, as many delegates observed, facilitated by favorable changes in the international climate thanks to the results of the Soviet-American summit meeting."

The committee delegates agreed upon an unofficial working document to be submitted for consideration to the forthcoming forum on disarmament.

It attached top priority to preventing nuclear war, ending the arms race and achieving nuclear disarmament in all directions of combatting the nuclear threat.

It pointed to the encouraging effect of the Soviet-American INF Treaty and agreement in principle to cut by half the strategic arms of the two countries.

The document stressed the importance of and the need for concluding an agreement with a view to preventing an arms race in outer space. It pointed to the urgency of the earliest conclusion of a convention on chemical weapons at the disarmament conference, considerable cuts in conventional arms, full observance of arms control an disarmament agreements, confidence-building measures, solution of the problem of the naval arms race, and establishment of peace zones in various regions.

The document drew attention to interrelationship between disarmament and development.

The delegates of the preparatory committee stressed the need for enhancing the efficiency of multilateral mechanisms of disarmament, specifically the U.N. role in that area, and the importance of active participation of public from various countries in the forthcoming special session.

Gerasimov Holds News Conference 10 Feb

Plenum Scheduled 'Next Week'

AU111406 Paris AFP in English 1356 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow, Feb 11 (AFP)—The Soviet Union's policy-making Central Committee will hold a meeting next week, Foreign Ministry Spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov said here Thursday.

The long-awaited meeting, which according to Soviet sources was first expected to take place in December or January, is to focus on educational reform.

Mr. Gerasimov, speaking at a news briefing, would not confirm that the plenum would be held next Wednesday, the date advanced privately by other Soviet officials.

In a speech last November, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev called for "radical changes" in the educational system, which had "in many respects fallen short of today's requirements."

"The quality of education in schools, colleges and universities and of the training of workers and professionals does not fully meet the needs of the day," he said.

Soviet education journalist Valeria Prut told AFP that the plenum on education would adopt reforms "at least as important" as those at a plenum last June, when the Central Committee decided to decentralise the Soviet economy to give plant managers greater incentive and freedom from central bodies.

The Central Committee could make changes in the ruling Politburo, notably concerning candidate (non-voting) member Boris Yeltsin, who was dismissed as Moscow Communist Party chief last November but now holds the post of first deputy chairman of the State Construction Committee.

After last weekend's replacement of Nikolay Talyzin at the head of the powerful State Planning Committee (Gosplan), analysts said he could lose his candidate status in the Politburo. And his successor, Yury Maslyukov, who is a Central Committee member without Politburo status, could be promoted.

On Aghanistan Statement

LD111445 Moscow TASS in English 1439 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow February 11 TASS—"Mikhail Gorbachev's statement on Afghanistan has evoked lively response around the world.

It is being viewed as a major political action attesting to the Soviet Union's aspiration to achieve the earliest settlement in Afghanistan," a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman told a briefing here today.

"Much will depend on the successful completion of the Afghan-Pakistani talks in Geneva held via Diego Cordovez, personal representative of the U.N. secretary-general," said Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the Foreign Ministry's Information Directorate.

The spokesman observed that the "Soviet Union is undertaking diplomatic efforts to implement provisions of the statement.

On February 10, for instance, First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuliy Vorontsov held a conversation in Islamabad with Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq.

Today, he held talks at the Pakistani Foreign Ministry and met with Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo.

Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovskiy arrived in Tehran today for a meeting with Iranian officials."

Responding to questions, Gerasimov noted that the talks conducted by Vorontsov in Pakistan were assessed in the Soviet Union as useful.

He expressed the view that there were opportunities for making the forthcoming round of the Afghan-Pakistani talks in Geneva the concluding one.

Shultz Visit To Speed Up Talks

LD111505 Moscow TASS in English 1502 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow February 11 TASS—"The visit of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz was planned already during the summit meeting in Washington. It was decided then that a meeting of ministers may become necessary to accelerate the process of drafting a treaty on a 50-per cent cut in the strategic ofensive weapons. The visit of George Shultz to Moscow will be the first such meeting," a briefing was told today by Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the Information Directorate of the USSR Foreign Ministry, who was answering the questions of newsmen.

"During the talks in Moscow," he noted, "the question will be discussed of accelerating the Geneva talks, which are beginning to slow down despite the fact that the USSR has recently tabled a new proposal on control problems. On top of that, other problems will, certainly, be discussed, as was the case also at the preceding meetings of ministers—questions pertaining to bilateral relations, humanitarian issues, the situation around Afghanistan within the framework of the discussion of the problems of regional conflicts. Questions will also be raised concerning the visit of U.S. President Ronald Reagan to the USSR in the first half of this year."

"It is hoped in the USSR that the visit of the U.S. secretary of state will give an impetus to the process of the Geneva talks," the spokesman for the USSR Foreign Ministry emphasized.

On Chemical Weapons Ban

LD111522 Moscow TASS in English 1518 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow February 11 TASS—"The Soviet Union attaches much significance to the problem of banning and destroying chemical weapons. In the USSR it is believed that very much has been done to achieve these goals and sign a relevant convention before long," Soviet Foreign Ministry Spokesman Gennaidly Gerasimov said at a briefing here today.

Gerasimov, chief of the ministry's Information Directorate, continued:

"In Moscow note has been taken of the statements made at the Geneva conference by the foreign ministers of Hungary, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy and Indonesia, in which they went on record for an early conclusion of the convention and urged more intense talks" with that aim.

The West German and Italian ministers, for example, said that the text in the making at the talks was a good basis for concluding the work to hammer out the fine print of the convention and that the political issues had been solved and the remaining outstanding matters were of a technical nature and were connected with wordings.

Both Hans-Dietrich Genscher and Giulio Andreotti expressed confidence that the problems remaining to be tackled would be overcome soon.

"In the USSR it has been noted with satisfaction." Gerasimov said, "that the West German minister in his statement spoke positively of a Soviet proposal for mandatory challenge inspections."

"In Moscow note has been taken also of Giulio Andreotti's announcement that the Italian Government intends to sponsor a meeting of leading experts in Italy to discuss the technical aspects of prohibiting chemical weapons."

"In the USSR it is believed that, provided there is the goodwill of all participating nations, the convention can be finalized at the earliest date," Gerasimov said.

PRC Talks on Border Issues

LD111500 Moscow TASS in English 1452 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow February 11 TASS—Soviet and Chinese representatives in working groups for examining the location of the border-line in the east and for preparing and conducting joint photography of that stretch of the frontier have ended meetings in Moscow, Soviet Foreign Ministry Spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov told a briefing today.

Gerasimov, chief of the ministry's Information Directorate, said the photography was needed to help settle border issues.

He added it was planned to start the work this year.

The spokesman said also that "the exchange of opinions on the situation in Latin America and the problems of a Central American settlement, which has taken place in Beijing as part of permanent consultations on international issues between Foreign Ministry officials of the USSR and China, has been useful for both sides".

Britain's Howe To Visit

LD111534 Moscow TASS in English 1529 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow February 11 TASS—"British Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe will arrive in the Soviet Union next Sunday, February 14," a Soviet Foreign Ministry Spokesman told a briefing here today.

Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the Foreign Ministry's Information Directorate, said that the British foreign secretary would have talks with his Soviet counterpart Eduard Shevardnadze.

"There is a possibility of a conversation with Mikhail Gorbachev," Gerasimov added.

"The agenda of the talks is extensive," the ministry spokesman said. "The sides will discuss international problems and issues of bilateral relations."

Commissions' Appeal on N. Europe, Arctic Trends

LD120700 Moscow TASS in English 0641 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow February 12 TASS—Following is the full text of the appeal to parliaments and parliamentarians of the nations of Nordic Europe, the United States and Canada:

The Foreign Affairs Commissions of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet appeal to the corresponding commissions of the parliaments of Denmark, Iceland, Norway, Finland, Sweden, the United States and Canada and to all members of parliament in these countries in connection with a question that is, in their view, of extremely topical importance.

Positive trends are being manifested with increasing clarity in the present-day international situation. Their development could lead to the reduction and ultimately elimination of the nuclear threat looming large over mankind and to the establishment of lasting security around the world.

Of special significance is the signing on December 8, 1987 by general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan of the Soviet-American Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles—a first real step along the road towards nuclear disarmament.

Against this background, some unfavourable trends observed in northern Europe and in the Arctic, however, cannot but give rise to concern.

At a time when processes leading to greater mutual confidence and creating prerequisites for even further-going measures in the field of disarmament are gaining strength on the European Continent, an arms race is continuing over the sea expanses of this region, remaining so far outside all diplomatic processes directed at diminishing the threat of war and military confrontation.

A formidable destructive potential of nuclear arms has been concentrated on submarines and surface vessels, which not only creates an atmosphere of military-political tension, threatening the security of northern European countries and Arctic nations, but also has a negative effect on the political climate all over the world.

The continuing extension of military preparations and growing activity of the navies of the United States and NATO, above all in the North Atlantic, which have not been caused by any actions on the part of the USSR, are having a destabilizing effect on the strategic situation in the north.

We are sure that drastic reduction in military confrontation in the north of our planet would meet the supreme interests of all countries of that region and all of mankind.

General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev advanced on behalf of the Soviet Union in his speech in Murmansk on October 1, 1987 a diverse programme of action which can, given political will on the part of all sides concerned, lead to the transformation of areas inside and near the Arctic Circle of our planet into a genuine peace zone and replace mistrust and suspicion with confidence, and confrontation with fruitful cooperation and interaction.

The northern countries can and should play their weighty part in the historic process of advancement towards a nuclear weapon-free and non-violent world.

The Murmansk initiatives have set forth the Soviet Union's opinion on specific measures that could begin to be carried out together both in the military-political field and in the area of civilian cooperation, and outlined ways of launching broad-based dialogue with this aim through diplomatic and political channels, directly between governments, representatives of political parties, scientists, environmental experts, and social organizations.

The basis for such dialogue was further specified and concretized during the recent official visit of Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, to Sweden and Norway.

We believe that time has come for our countries to sit down at the negotiating table and start joint and constructive work to find viable and stable formulas to ensure mutual security as well as mutual interests in other fieds, such as the economy, ecology, science, etc.

We urge the parliaments and parliamentarians of Denmark, Iceland, Norway, Finland, Sweden, the United States and Canada to use all the levers and possibilities at their disposal to achieve practical solutions to the issues of making the north of the planet into a real zone of peace and fruitful cooperation.

The deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet are prepared for active and intense dialogue in various forms and at various forums on the entire range of related issues.

In our opinion, it would be useful towards this end already in the immediate future to hold working meetings, seminars or colloquiums as well as television hookups with the participation of representatives of the foreign affairs commissions and other corresponding bodies of the parliaments of the Nordic countries, the United States and Canada to discuss possible ways of activating their interaction.

For our part, we suggest that representatives of the parliaments of all interested nations hold a meeting in Moscow in 1988 to discuss measures essential to the ecological protection of the region, including specific recommendations for the governments of the corresponding countries.

The same meeting could also discuss further steps to strengthen security and trust and develop peaceful cooperation in the Arctic and in the north as a whole.

We would be prepared also to invite a delegation from the Anker Jorgensen committee to discuss the problem of establishing a nuclear-free zone in the north of Europe.

We are prepared to discuss any other ideas and proposals aimed at launching either bilateral or multilateral interaction. The main thing, as has been pointed out in

Murmansk, is to act so that the climate in the region be determined by the warm gulf stream of the CSCE process rather than the polar breath of accumulated suspicion and prejudice.

The foreign affars commissions of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet hope for a positive response from the corresponding commissions and parliaments of Denmark, Iceland, Norway, Finland, Sweden, the United States and Canada to the issues raised in this appeal.

The appeal to the parliaments and members of parliament of countries of northern Europe, the United States and Canada was adopted at the joint meeting of the foreign affairs commissions of the two chambers of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR held in the Kremlin on February 9, 1988. The meeting was chaired by Yegor Ligachev, member of the PoliticaL Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of the Union of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

When presenting the draft appeal to the deputies Anatoliy Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of Nationalities of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, stressed that this document is a concrete measure to promote and implement the large-scale initiatives set forth by Mikhail Gorbachev in his speech in Murmansk on October 1, 1987.

The urgency and importance of this concrete action by the foreign affairs commissions of the chambers of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, he went on, are determined by the fact that in the north, in the Arctic there continues to be clearly felt, as it was said in Murmansk, the chilling breath of the Pentagon's "polar strategy". NATO and first of all the United States are continuing to build up their naval and air power in the North Atlantic. Also attracting attention are the stepped up activities of the naval and air forces of the United States and NATO in the Baltic, North, Norwegian and Greenland Seas, the intensive utilisation of the Arctic area by U.S. submarines, and other military measures.

It is natural that the intensification of U.S. and NATO military activity in these regions cannot but cause our grave concern, Anatoliy Dobrynin said further. This mounting militarisation of the region also worries other countries in the European north whose security, naturally, it threatens likewise. A discussion of the ways of strengthening military-political stability in the region is also being conducted in the countries of northern Europe which are making a certain contribution to the development of positive processes in international life. Some constructive initiatives directed at lessening the level of military confrontation in the north are being born, including among members of parliament. Concern is being shown over NATO plans to compensate for the consequences of the elimination of intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles in Europe by stepping up military activity in the North Atlantic. At the same time a constant strong pressure by the United States and the NATO leadership is effecting a negative influence on the policy of the governments of most of these countreis, including on the nature of their practical reaction to the USSR's Murmansk initiatives.

Thereby the obtaining situation makes still more urgent and weighty the Soviet Union's proposals to discuss with the states of this region measures of lessening and removing the threat that has originated there.

By their appeal to the parliaments and members of parliament of northern countries Soviet members of parliament so to say propose to them to build a sort of additional track to advance the positive processes of disarmament, detente and peaceful cooperation in the region in the spirit of the Murmansk initiatives.

The participants in the meeting unanimously approved the draft appeal. Yegor Ligachev spoke at the end of the meeting and expressed confidence that the adoption by the foreign affairs commissions of the chambers of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR of the appeal to the parliaments and members of parliament of countries of northern Europe, the United States and Canada will play its positive role in strengthening security and trust and developing peaceful cooperation in the north, and also in the cause of ensuring military-political stability in the world as a whole.

The text of the appeal is being forwarded to the foreign affairs commissions and other respective bodies of the parliaments of Denmark, Iceland, Norway, Finland, Sweden, the United States and Canada through the USSR embassies in those countries.

WPC's Chandra Comments on Geneva Talks

LD111805 Moscow TASS in English 1729 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Geneva February 11 TASS—By TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Korzhev:

Overcoming the enemy image in international relations and breaking away from the stereotypes which hamper the development of friendship and cooperation are the main tasks facing the world public at large today. These problems were discussed at a round table here, sponsored by 17 international government organisations. They included the World Peace Council, the World Federation of UN Associations, the World Council of Churches, and the International Youth and Student Movement of the United Nations.

It is necessary to put an end to everything that poisons the international atmosphere and hampers cooperation, the WPC President, Romesh Chandra, said in a TASS interview. In Geneva we agreed on the strong need for

new efforts in this direction. The very composition of the round table underlines the growing interest to this problem. One should not only speak but also make practical steps to strengthen it and make people and politicians aware of new thinking.

It is high time, the WPC president continued, that an end be put to campaigns slandering whole countries and peoples as "the focus of evil." They not only damage the relations between countries, but also help instigate military psychosis, militarist feelings, the ideas of racial discrimination and intolerance. The forces of imperialism and reaction are fanning up such campaigns. Suffice it to look at the actions of South Africa's racist regime, which tries to present the civil rights fighters as black terrorists, threatening the entire white population. The American military resorted to the same subterfuge in Vietnam to arouse fear and hatred towards all Vietnamese, including old people, women and children.

International politics took a turn for the better now and first steps were made towards real disarmament, Romesh Chandra stressed. The world public opinion can make a weighty contribution to extending this process and formulating a new philosophy which must replace the ideology of hatred for mankind and confrontation. We have agreed in Geneva that overcoming the image of enemy would help attain these goals and new efforts should be made in that direction, the WPC president said.

Welcomes Afghanistan Statement

LD111320 Moscow TASS in English 1219 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Geneva February 11 TASS—"Representatives of various sections of international public opinion whom I met here on these days welcome Mikhail Gorbachev's statement on Afghanistan," President of the World Peace Council Romesh Chandra has told TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Korzhev.

This was not only because of the Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan and relations between the two countries, he said. Gorbachev's statement directly proceeded from the Soviet Union's course towards building peace and consolidating trust.

It contributed to the process of establishing a new global climate, with the signing of the INF Treaty in Washington being its important aspect.

All that was giving a powerful impetus to attaining solutions to other world problems, specifically to settling regional conflicts in various parts of the world, including the Middle East, Central America, Africa and Asia.

Chandra observed that the possibility of the Soviet troop withdrawal emerged as a result of the successful implementation of the policy of national reconciliation in Afghanistan, progress in the indirect talks between Pakistan and Afghanistan and other positive changes.

He expressed the hope that all forces truly interested in Afghanistan's fate will come to agreement.

Gorbachev Afghan Document Distributed at UN

LD111745 Moscow TASS in English 1645 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] New York February 11 (TASS)—The statement on Afghanistan by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev was distributed at the United Nations Organization today as an official document of the U.N. General Assembly and the Security Council.

Krasulin Comments on UN Third Special Session

LD111644 Moscow TASS in English 1623 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow February 11 TASS—"We believe that on the whole the results of the work of the preparatory committee of the third special session of the U.N. General Assembly are positive". This was stated at a briefing today by Boris Krasulin, first deputy head of the International Organisations' Department of the USSR Foreign Ministry. He participated in the committee's work.

"There are now real prospects for all states of the world to actively join the process of disarmament", said the representative of the USSR Foreign Ministry. "We advocate that the process of disarmament should be under way not only between the USSR and the USA but should become multilateral. The work of the third special session should be built in a way that to ensure a possibility to its every participant to realize its share of responsibility for disarmament.

The USSR advocates that a democratic, not a confrontational, dialogue, be launched at the session in the whole package of problems of disarmament, that all the states be oriented to the quest for points of contact, to finding compromise, mutually beneficial decisions. Exactly such an approach, in our opinion, is bound to ensure attainment of the main goal—to bring together all the states to make the disarmament process irreversible and uninterrupted."

The session, the Soviet Union believes, should have the following main questions on the agenda: Questions of a nuclear-free world and creation of conditions for all-around discussion of the problem of nuclear disarmament as a whole. It is essential that the session should consolidate and broaden the world community's support for the results of the Soviet-American summit meeting. What is implied is not only direct support for the

agreement on the elimination of the intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles but also support for this process as the beginning of nuclear disarmament as a whole. "The early completion of the draftng of the convention on prohibition of chemical weapons is also considered by us as a priority problem. The beginning of negotiations on reduction of troops and conventional armaments is also a priority", Boris Krasulin said.

Soviets Participate in UN Meeting on Narcotics

LD112120 Moscow TASS in English 2056 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Vienna February 11 TASS—The tenth special session of the U.N. Commission on Narcotic Drugs, which is under way here, is discussing the draft new convention on measures against illegal trade in narcotic drugs and psychotropic preparations.

Speakers at the session underlined that adoption of the document was particularly topical now that criminal activities of drug traffickers were broadening. It was noted that illegal drug trafficking reached such dimensions that criminal syndicates, which have unlimited financial means, threaten the security and sovereignty of some states. Criminals bribe officials, unleash terror and kill unsuitable judges, policemen and politicians. Speakers unanimously underlined the need for consolidating international cooperation, perfecting the existing international agreements to stop drug trafficking.

The Soviet delegation acquainted the participants in the session with the anti-drug-addiction measures being taken by the Soviet Union. The session received with satisfaction the USSR's decision to participate in activities of the United Nations fund for drug abuse control. The Soviet side proposes to provide the fund with medicinal and diagnostic materials, to carry out annual seminars for training drug abuse control personnel. 15 stipends to train physicians from developing countries are to be provided to the fund on a regular basis.

Burlatskiy, Helsinki Federation's Steen Cited

PM111445 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 6, 7 Feb 88 p 7

[Unattributed interview with International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights representative Reiulf Steen and Soviet Public Commission for Humanitarian Cooperation and Human Rights Chairman Fedor Burlatskiy: Behind The 'Image of the Enemy.' East Meets West on Human Rights"]

[Text] We have long known about the existence of the International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights (IHF), but preferred to ignore it, seeing the IHF's attention to the human rights situation in socialist countries is biased and aggressive. The federation's acts seemed to contradict the spirit of the Helsinki process: They seemed bent on discrediting the socialist system in Europe and foiling East-West cooperation. But the time calls for new approaches to the realities. One of the latest results of the efficiency of the new thinking was a visit to Moscow by an IHF delegation at the invitation of the Soviet Committee for European Security and Cooperation. The meeting marked an important attempt to move from mutual mistrust to constructive dialogue and from confrontation to cooperation. Was the experiment a success? Our correspondent asked IHF delegation member Reiulf Steen, former chairman of the Norwegian Labour Party and now vice-president of the Storting (parliament) of Norway, and Fedor Burlatskiy, chairman of the Soviet Public Commission for Humanitarian Cooperation and Human Rights.

MN: Mr. Steen, to begin with - a few words about your federation, its objectives and interests....

Reiulf Steen: The federation was set up shortly after the Helsinki conference and includes the national committees for human rights established in all West European countries, the USA and Canada. Inasmuch as the federation is a product of the Helsinki process, its geographic sphere of interests is limited to countries which are signatories to the Final Act. We are mainly interested in the human rights situation in East European countries and in the USSR, since we attach greatest importance to personal rights, while paying less attention to social and economic rights.

Fedor Burlatskiy: The East and West engage in constant polemics: What constitutes human rights? Until recently, we emphasized the need to ensure social and economic rights, while the West insisted on the priority of civil and political rights. Now it looks like the situation is changing. In the Soviet Union, greater attention is being focused on democratization, that is, on the expansion of civil and political rights and liberties and on their guarantees. It would be good if the West, too, revised its traditional approaches to human rights and paid more attention to socio-economic rights.

MN: Mr. Steen, what is your opinion?

R.S.: Focusing our attention on the situation with personal rights in the East European countries and in the Soviet Union, we proceed from the assumption that the situation with this group of rights in Western Europe is satisfactory. But these personal rights have not been balanced with social and economic rights. And therefore, I think, the actions of human rights activists should be to a larger extent concentrated on socio-economic rights in Western Europe and North America insofar as this is a problem of paramount importance. I must say most categorically that our actions in the sphere of socio-economic rights, as part and parcel of human rights, are far from effective.

MN: A significant confession. How typical is your opinion in the West? Is it shared by many people?

F.B.: It looks like changes in this direction are in the offing. At any rate, at an international meeting in early January in the Netherlands, the representatives of 13 countries of Eastern and Western Europe and the USA issued a joint communique to the effect that human rights should include both political, civil and socio-economic rights.

MN: What, do you think, is the reason for these changes?

F.B.: I think that the key reason is humankind's reaching a crucial stage signified by the recent signing in Washington of the Soviet-American Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles. If such a major step is possible in such a delicate sphere as armaments, where so much mistrust, fear and mutual apprehension have built up, why shouldn't the same be possible in the sphere of human rights?

R.S.: Our delegation's visit to the Soviet Union may have produced the impression that the human rights problem in the USSR is the most important for us. But it would be a delusion to think so. I am convinced that of overriding importance for humankind are the problems of war and peace. To achieve a successful solution to them, there is a need for mutual confidence and the way to this lies through the solution of the human rights problem. And it is not at all difficult to solve it, I believe, if one were to speak about the Soviet Union.

I, for one, knew, even before the meeting, and received confirmation of this during a talk with Andrey Sakharov, that the number of the so-called prisoners of conscience is very small in the Soviet Union. For your country this is an insignificant problem, which practically does not exist as a major problem. But this is a big problem for East-West relationships. Why then not to solve this major problem by eliminating a problem which is so insignificant for your country? Such a step would be instumental in further consolidating the climate of trust between East and West, created by the signing of the INF Treaty.

MN: Are you saying that the INF Treaty might be instrumental in facilitating progress in the sphere of human rights in the context of East-West relationships?

R.S.: Quite correct. I am sure that to a very considerable extent the problem of human rights is linked to the feeling of security. The higher the tension, the more suspicious we are towards each other and the less safe we feel. As individuals, as groups and as states. Hence the mutual suspicions. Also hence the growth of suspiciousness within particular states: People begin to look for spies, for stooges everywhere. This leads to an infringement of personal liberties and rights. The INF Treaty has improved the atmosphere of coexistence between states in the East and West: It has lowered the tensions and consolidated trust. I think that our delegation's visit to the USSR would not have been possible without this treaty.

F.B.: The organizations operating in the sphere of human rights can and must contribute to improving the climate. Of special importance, I believe, is to build mutual confidence. We may later be disappointed, but it is still better to place trust in each other from the beginning: only with this approach can we begin in earnest the difficult transition from confrontation to cooperation.

We must be prepared to listen to constructive criticism. Many in our country cannot get used to criticism coming from abroad. I see this as the sign of an inferiority complex. It must be overcome. We are strong enough to listen to an honest voice telling us about our shortcomings. Of course, if the criticism is unconscientious, we shall be able to give a worthy reply. We have gained a wealth of experience in how to "mete out rebuff". But the main thing, I believe, is to rid all parties of the notion that any "other side" is necessarily an enemy, an adversary who wants to hurt or harm you.

R.S.: I find this very important. Let me add: No matter what attitude political circles in the West may take towards the USSR, the overwhelming majority of people in our countries wish the Soviet people well. Especially, in the attainment of the objectives facing perestroyka and glasnost. As I see it, a successful conclusion to these processes would become a major event of world history until the end of this century. The consequences of perestroyka and glasnost will have the most serious effects for world politics as well, and hence-for the day-to-day life of people all over the world. Just imagine what humankind will be able to achieve if we are able to leave the rhetoric behind and move on to solving the pressing problems confronting us. And the possibilities of such a transition depend on what course perestroyka and glasnost will take in the USSR.

Understand me correctly: I would like to remind you of the great responsibility devolving on all of you for the destinies of perestroyka. Responsibility for supporting those forces in the CPSU which back up the ideas so closely associated with Mikhail Gorbachev's course. It would be unnatural if no struggle were going on around the policy of perestroyka in the Soviet Union. I would only wish everyone taking part in this struggle that in so doing they should be guided by the interests of advancing perestroyka and glasnost.

You will possible find this call odd. But, leaving the Soviet Union, I would not like you to have an impression that we in the West use all our thoughts and all our resources exclusively for dealing with the question of human rights in the USSR. If you take me personally, at least I use 99 per cent of my resources - intellectual and material alike-for tackling the problems linked to human rights in other regions of the globe. Many other members of Helsinki commissions do the same: they take part not only in the work of the IHF, but also in commissions fighting against apartheid and for human rights in Chile and Guatemala. We have a committee in support of

Nicaragua. Or take the International Institute of Human Rights, which is a much larger and more influential organization than the IHF: The question of human rights in the USSR and East European countries does not belong to its range of interests, it deals with human rights problems in other regions of the world that require close attention.

From personal experience I know how greatly the situation with human rights has deteriorated in the past few decades in Latin America, South Africa and the Middle East. The situation there is truly dramatic. And along these lines as well there is planty of room for cooperation between you and us.

MH: To what extent is the Soviet side prepared to cooperate with the IHF?

F.B.: Over a long period our partners have stored up information on the situation about human rights in different countries of the West, Latin America, etc., and most zealously - about the USSR and other socialist countries. We cannot yet boast of having such files, nor do we have experience in work outside the USSR. If I were to go now to Norway, for example, I would simply not know what to say about the human rights situation in that country.

R. S.: Well, I shall provide the necessary materials. And rather critical at that...

MN: Judging by our discussion, the basis for mutual understanding seems fairly strong. How would you generally assess the IHF delegation's visit to the Soviet Union?

F.B.: I would call it historic. For the simple reason that we have made a first step from confrontation towards cooperation. In some respects it was not easy to make this step - there is nothing more difficult than breaking habits, especially bad ones. But the step has been made, and it must be followed by others.

R.S.: I also consider the IHF delegation's visit to the USSR a historic one. Provided, of course, that it will not be a one-time event, but become the starting point for a new process. Until now our federation and the Soviet side have been in a state of confrontation, and a very rude one at times. This happened, I believe, due to the lack of experience in getting in touch with, and insufficient understanding of, each other. The meetings in Moscow have enriched us with experience, and experience in such things is always useful even if it is not always pleasant. It is possible that those we happened to meet in Moscow have found us too critically-minded towards your country. But this impression could take shape merely because at the given moment we were precisely in the Soviet Union. I can assure you that in all those instances when we visit other countries we are no less (and in many cases much more) critical. Be it one way or another, but we have reached an understanding on cooperation, and this is the most important thing.

Zagladin-Edited Book on New Thinking Reviewed

PM101155 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Feb 88 First Edition p 4

[V. Korionov article under the "Bookshelf" rubric: "Topical Problems"]

[Text] The implementation of the plan for saving human civilization from the threat of nuclear war put forward in the 15 January 1986 statement by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and in the 27th party congress documents is having an ever-increasing influence on the development of the world situation. A recently published study [Footnote] [The Strategy for Saving Mankind. The 27th CPSU Congress and the Struggle for Peace. (Strategiya Spaseniya Chelovechestva. XXVII Syezd KPSS i Borba za Mir). CPSU Central Committee Institute of Marxism-Leninism. General Editor V.V. Zagladin. Moscow, Political Literature Publishing House] discusses what this plan constitutes and how it is being implemented. It reveals the dialectic elaborated by the CPSU of cooperation and rivalry between the two social systems and substantiates the need to restructure political thinking and the ways and means to humanize international relations. The authors have tried to show the place and significance of the socialist community, the international workers movement, developing countries, and mass democratic movements in the struggle for a nonnuclear world, and they have in most cases succeeded in this.

The book reveals the innovative nature of the foreign policy course elaborated by the 27th party congress, which proceeds on the basis that the contemporary situation in the world has no historical parallels. It is a new period in which military means capable of destroying civilization have emerged. In this situation we need a new philosophical interpretation of the essence of and prospects for international life and of the new substance the Leninist principle of peaceful coexistence has acquired in conditions with no alternative to it.

The CPSU and the Soviet state wage a persistent struggle to establish the new political thinking in international relations. These efforts are not wasted. A graphic illustration of this is the signing of the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles.

The monograph shows the historically law-governed nature of the contemporary phase of development—the increase in the role of socialism in the struggle for peace—and it reveals what specifically embodies its peace-loving essence today. Socialism cannot be satisfied with what has been achieved. The fate of the world and social progress are now linked more closely than ever before with the dynamism of the world socialist system's

economic and political development. In implementing restructuring and the democratization of our society, the CPSU is confirming that it has its finger on the pulse of the times. In turn, the measures being implemented within our country are having an ever-increasing influence on changing the political climate of the planet in favor of peace.

The book interestingly elucidates topical problems of the international workers movement, which is in the front line of the struggle for peace and security for the peoples. Life demands that the communist vanguard notice in a timely fashion new phenomena in social development, be able to predict possible turns of events, and be prepared for new maneuvers by the class enemy, and perhaps for changes in its tactics and sometimes its strategy.

However, certain detachments of the communist movement are sometimes taken unaware. Along with other problems, the monograph examines why this happens and ways to resolve difficult questions facing the workers movement.

Time demands of all champions of peace, including Soviet people—the heirs of the humanist ideas of October—rapid actions capable of preventing the world from sliding into the nuclear abyss. The collective of authors has done necessary, useful work in examining the gamut of these problems.

Admiral Asks U.S. 'Action' on Asia-Pacific Talks

PM101137 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Feb 88 Second Edition p 3

[Interview with Admiral V. Sidorov, deputy commander in chief of the USSR Navy, by correspondent A. Golts under the rubric "From Competent Sources": "Why They Are Distorting the Facts"; place, date not specified]

[Text] The mass media of certain Asian countries have recently been persistently inflating the question of an alleged buildup of Soviet military might in the Pacific region. A similar viewpoint is also expressed by certain representatives of the U.S. military department. Thus, in an interview in the Japanese newspaper YOMIURI, for example, Admiral R. Hays, commander of U.S. armed forces in the Pacific and Indian Ocean region, discoursed on a "buildup" of Soviet missile-carrying submarines and an "increase in the Soviet military presence in Southeast Asia."

But how, in fact, is the military-political situation developing in the Pacific region? KRASNAYA ZVEZDA'S correspondent put this question to Admiral V. Sidorov, deputy commander in chief of the USSR Navy, who until recently was commander of the Pacific Fleet.

"I wish to point out first of all," Vladimir Vasilyevich said, "that it is no coincidence that the Americans have mounted this propaganda campaign now. Clearly, the Pentagon has really taken fright at the beneficial influence that the signing of the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-range Missiles is having on the peoples. U.S. admirals fear that the struggle to relax tension will be stepped up in Asian and Pacific countries. So they have resorted to their favorite means: cock-and-bull stories about the 'Soviet military threat.'

"Admiral Hays claims that a buildup of Soviet missile-carrying submarines is taking place in the Pacific. I can declare most responsibly that there is no buildup. On the contrary, there is even a certain reduction in their number. I think the U.S. commander is perfectly well aware of this, although he claims the opposite in public.

"Now about the overall military-political situation in the region. The number and nature of military maneuvers is an important criterion for assessing the sides' intentions. Thus, last year the number of our military exercises remained at the 1986 level, and their scale did not increase either. It is a different matter with the Americans. They staged considerably more exercises in 1987 than in 1986. The scale of militarist rehearsals is also increasing constantly. More and more air formations and Rapid Deployment Force formations are being involved in them, and increasingly large naval forces are being used. It is significant that the troops of U.S. allies, Japan and South Korea, are increasingly widely being involved in such maneuvers. The U.S.-South Korean Team Spirit maneuvers, in which more than 200,000 servicemen participate annually, can serve as an example." [At this point the first edition of the paper includes the extra sentence: "The next such exercises will begin in the south of the Korean Peninsula at the end of March."]

I drew Adm V. Sidorov's attention to Hays' claim that Soviet ships threaten the territory of the United States and other Pacific countries.

"Quite the reverse," my interlocutor emphasized. "There is not a single Soviet warship near the U.S. Pacific coast. At the same time, U.S. Navy ships regularly approach our territorial waters. Here are specific data: Last year alone there were five U.S. warships in the immediate vicinity of our territorial waters. A scandalous incident occurred in May, when the missile cruiser Arkansas twice violated our territorial waters in the region of Avachinskiy Bay.

"It is no coincidence that this is being done: A deplorable new U.S. naval strategy is being rehearsed that presupposes making a first strike both against Soviet ships and against our coast."

[Golts] There is continuing speculation about an expansion of the Soviet military presence in Southeast Asia. The same Hays claims that a "Soviet forward base" has been created on the SRV coast in Cam Ranh Bay. What can you say about that?

[Sidorov] There is no more truth in that statement than in those we have just been discussing. Under an agreement with the SRV, there is a temporary material and technical supply point for Soviet ships at Cam Ranh. It is designed to replenish stocks of fuel, food, and water, to carry out minor repairs, and for personnel to rest. The USSR does not lease territory in Cam Ranh, and our ships use the same moorings as Vietnamese ships. I will note that the number of visits by Pacific Fleet ships to Cam Ranh even fell in 1987. Our country consistently advocates the elimination of military bases on foreign territories. The USSR has no intention of turning Cam Ranh into a military base.

[Golts] Pentagon people have not missed the opportunity recently to express their satisfaction with the growth in Japan's war preparations. They use the same old "Soviet military threat" to justify them. What influence are Japan's arms buildup and the plans to create its own aircraft carriers, cruise missiles, and warships equipped with supermodern electronics, such as the "AEGIS" system, having on the situation in the region?

[Sidorov] Those who discourse on the threat allegedly hanging over Japan could hardly cite any specific facts to confirm those fabrications, for such facts simply do not exist. Tokyo is creating a powerful navy not for defense. It is clear what tasks the Americans want to entrust to the Japanese Navy. First, there is combat support for the first-strike forces. Second, U.S. strategists clearly intend to reassign to the Japanese Navy some of the functions presently fulfilled by the U.S. Navy. In this way, they will be able to release some of their own forces and concentrate them in the Okhotsk and Kamchatka salients in order to be able to blockade the Soviet Pacific Fleet in the Sea of Japan. Of course, complicity in these aggressive designs does not increase Japan's security but reduces it several times over.

The naval buildup accords with the aspirations of overtly revanchist forces in Japan [here first edition reads "in Japanese society"]. This arouses concern not only in our country but also in many Asian countries [first edition omits "but also in many Asian countries"].

[Golts] It must be pointed out that talk about the possibility of negotiations, with a view to easing the level of military confrontation in the region, have also been heard from the lips of certain U.S. military figures, albeit with reservations. Thus, Admiral W. Crowe, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, recently recognized the idea of a dialogue on confidence-building measures in Asia and the Pacific as meriting attention. What does a Soviet admiral [first edition reads "Soviet Adm V. Sidorov"] think about this?

[Sidorov] Of course, it would be a good thing if the Americans proceeded from talk to action here. They know the Soviet Union's program on this question. It was expounded in M.S. Gorbachev's speeches in Vladivostok and the Indian Parliament and in his replies to questions from the Indonesian newspaper MERDEKA. The Soviet Union proposed, in particular, discussing the question of restricting the areas where ships carrying nuclear weapons may sail, limiting the ASW contest, and banning ASW activity, including the use of aircraft, in certain areas. The question of limiting exercises and maneuvers in the Indian Ocean, the Pacific, and adjacent seas has also long been urgent. We are also ready to discuss any counterproposals from the United States and other countries in the Asia and Pacific region. The sooner we begin a dialogue with the United States on lowering the level of military activity and confrontation in the Asia and Pacific region, the sooner it will be possible to resolve the urgent problems of strengthening the security of all the countries located there. So, our proposals on confidence-building measures in the Asia and Pacific region lie on the table. However, there are still no proposals from the other side to be seen there [first edition omits this sentence through this point], Adm V. Sidorov concluded.

United States & Canada

U.S. Warships Violate Soviet Territorial Waters

LD121717 Moscow TASS in English 1711 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow February 12 TASS—The U.S. cruiser Yorktown and destroyer Caron violated the USSR state border at 10 hours 45 minutes Moscow time on February 12 when sailing in the Black Sea in the area of Crimea, it was announced by the USSR Ministry of Defence. They entered Soviet territorial waters to a distance of up to 7 kilometres. The U.S. ships did not react to warning signals of Soviet border guard ships and dangerously maneouvred in Soviet territorial waters.

The American ships left Soviet territorial waters at 12 hours 49 minutes.

Further Report

LD121846 Moscow World Service in English 1800 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Text] Two American warships are reported to have made an incursion into the Soviet Union's territorial waters in the Black Sea off the coast of the Crimea. The Soviet Defense Ministry says on Thursday the cruiser Yorktown and the destroyer Caron went up to 7 kilometres beyond the Soviet border. For 2 hours the vessels performed dangerous maneuvers in the Soviet waters, ignoring warning signals from Soviet (?border) guards.

The ministry says the incident follows an earlier incursion into the Soviet Black Sea waters on 13th March 1986 [date as heard] by the same ships.

Linnik Reviews 'Phenomenon' of Reagan Presidency

PM121214 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Feb 88 Second Edition p 7

[Own correspondent V. Linnik report: "Insights of the Nuclear Age: How They Look From New York"]

[Text] New York, February—The last months and weeks of Reagan's presidency will now blow away into history like the smoke from the candles on the birthday cake presented to him on his 77th birthday. From now on time will quicken its pace, as it always does when the end is approaching and the time for summing up arrives. The longest presidency in the United States since the days of Eisenhower is entering its concluding phase.

The most popular word, the word that will be heard more often than any other in the White House this year, is the word "last." The last "State of the Union" message to Congress, the last birthday spent in the White House. In presidential election year the attention of the press is directed more and more toward the "bright young things"—the current contenders for the post of president. In 11 months' time one of them is fated to take from Reagan's hands the reins of state power.

But all the same... Even in election year, an unusual year for America, the foreign policy agenda is still set by the President. That agenda includes the ratification of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles, a visit to Moscow, and ...the problem of aid to the contras in Nicaragua.

The most penetrating analysts in America are already pondering the nature of the Reagan phenomenon. What is the secret of this President, who is still the "Teflon" President? After all, he has gotten away with transgressions one-tenth of which would have been enough for the American press to have any other politician hung, drawn, and quartered long ago! There was (and is) "Irangate," the death of the Marines in Beirut, the almost universal corruption among officials, major and minor, in his administration, the invasion of Grenada, the bombing of Libya! Yet all the same, the President's popularity is on a level with the best in American history for the last year of a presidency.

Reagan has shaken to its foundations the myth that a country has to be governed by an intellectual—even a country as complex as the United States, even in times as complex as ours. In both the style and the nature of his rule, which so many people have mocked, he has demonstrated the strength of political instinct, of a true reading not of books but of politics and people, and also of the limits of what is possible for an American politician.

I am, of course, aware that in many respects Reagan is the child of fortune, the darling of the fates. In the "Irangate" case, he may well have been saved by the fact that the American establishment had long ago decided for itself that phenomena like "Watergate" are possible only as a unique episode—mainly in order to demonstrate to the whole world the "advantages" of American democracy—and by no means as a system. It is clear that the American ruling class recognizes the limits to which its legality can stretch with regard to its own leaders. And these limits can only be crossed exceptionally.

Finally, one of the biggest mysteries for the experts: Why did they turn out to be right, after all, those of our "prophets" who said, even before Reagan's election in 1980, that a conservative was a good thing, that it would be easier for us to reach an understanding with him? They proceeded from the premise that in America, it is easier for conservatives to pursue agreements with us than for liberals, who constantly have to demonstrate to their own public their belligerence toward the USSR because they are constantly suspected of being "soft on communists."

Nonetheless, Reagan performed a full-scale somersault in Soviet-U.S. relations. To do this he had to replace virtually the entire military leadership in his administration—from Perle to Weinberger.

The evolution of the present administration's attitude toward the USSR was influenced by many and diverse factors, and the last thing I would want to do would be to belittle their influence and force. There was the deterioration in the socioeconomic situation in the country, the peoples' will for peace, the highly questionable results of the policy of strong-arm pressure on us. And—not least—there was Reagan's desire to go down in history as a peacemaker. Lastly, if you like, there was the desire to shake off the stigma of "Irangate."

Here I will venture the following thought: Despite possessing the world's most advanced philosophy, all the same we do not have a monopoly of insight, especially in the nuclear age, and especially on matters of life and death for all mankind.

So under the influence of many and diverse factors, even an apostle of conservatism like Reagan proved capable of renouncing many of his own dogmas, if not at heart, at least in the political practice of dealings with us. After beginning by talking about the "evil empire" and saying that communism will become nothing more than "a bizarre footnote in the history of mankind," he later was surprised to encounter the phenomenon of restructuring in the USSR.

You have to know America to realize what a revolutionary shock it is to America and its leaders suddenly to discover that in terms of popularity among Americans, the Soviet leader is nearly 20 percentage points ahead of their own President—or when the Soviet leader's book on restructuring remains on the American bestseller list for 7 weeks.

We have already admitted that we underestimated capitalism's power of adaptability. I think Reagan's America also grossly underestimated socialism's potential and reserves, which are graphically demonstrated by restructuring and glasnost. The clash of shared delusions struck a spark of mutual understanding.

"It takes two to tango," the President himself once said. When the United States was invited to dance, it got up, although not immediately, and began to move to the music, although from time to time it treads on our toes and then loses the rhythm.

But in any case, one thing is clear: It is better to move away from the nuclear abyss in whatever way you can than to stand on its brink.

During the nuclear age, the world has witnessed the birth of various projects for mankind's salvation, each more exotic than the last. The desire to escape came almost immediately after the recognition of the scale of the possible catastrophe. It is amazing that this desire did not by any means immediately come to the scientists who awoke the demonic forces that lurk within the atom, who, you would think, should have a better idea than other people of the nature of the threat. It was 10 years after the explosions at Hiroshima and Nagasaki that Einstein and R ıssell, whom it is now so fashionable to quote, put forward their celebrated manifesto on the "new thinking."

In the early sixties in America, some enthusiasts in America cherished the idea of exchanging Soviet and American children as hostages so that neither country could start a nuclear war. Under this program, under the name of "hostages of peace," it was proposed to send President J. Kennedy's children to the Soviet Union and N.S. Khrushchev's children to the United States.

A few years ago P. Kelly, one of the leaders of the Green party in the FRG, proposed to Reagan that the presidential code for the command to start a nuclear attack be inserted into the heart of a child. Giving the command to start a nuclear war would first mean killing that child.

At the beginning of the nuclear age, the military on both sides thought in more familiar terms. According to the well-known definition, generals are always preparing for the battles of the previous war, and so this time, too, at first, they stubbornly hoped for victory in a nuclear war and were preparing beforehand for such a victory: They taught a subject called "civil defense," they dug shelters, and they stocked them with biscuits and canned butter. Plaques saying "nuclear shelter" still hang from old buildings in the United States. Just imagine, to this day these plaques are not being removed, despite all the assurances of the American leadership that a nuclear war cannot be waged and can have no winners.

Diplomats have also worked unflaggingly for decades in more traditional areas. Yet for some reason, it has always turned out that despite all the efforts at the numerous international conferences, seminars, and congresses, there are more and more nuclear weapons. In a word, it all went according to the well-known proverb: The priest does his work, and the devil does his.

However, from time to time, there were politicians in West and East who shared their dreams of a nuclear-free world—albeit without specifying the time scale, some time in the remote future. They thought these good intentions could save mankind one day. This kind of abstract love for your neighbor is described with the utmost eloquence in a diary entry by one major American philanthropist. "When I read 'The Brothers Karamazov,'" he wrote, "I am filled to overflowing with a feeling of love for mankind, which sometimes lasts until lunch the next day."

In the lifetime of one generation, mankind has discovered two bitter truths. The first is that the capacity has been acquired to destroy civilization and life itself in a matter of hours. The second is that despite possessing the material potential to make life happier for the people of the earth or at least to feed everyone, we have not managed to do so. The content of an ancient genre of

philosophical art—the utopia—has changed. In our day it is not some kind of picture of universal prosperity in future but the very idea of mankind's survival that could become a utopia.

In the new conditions, it only remained to follow the advice of T. Paine, the 18th-century American political philosopher. "When past experience does not help," he wrote, "we should go back to basics, and think, as if we were the first thinking men on earth."

One result of this approach was the Soviet program for the elimination of nuclear and chemical weapons by the year 2000. It reflected the firm intention to remove the prime cause of the present situation in the world, that is, nuclear arsenals. When the agreement was signed in Washington, it had the effect of a clap of thunder. The air was cleared, and breathing grew easier.

Paraphrasing the well-known saying, one could say that whereas hitherto politicians have been explaining the nuclear world, now the task is to remake it: to make the nuclear world a nuclear-free world.

Evidently in the last analysis, the most sobering reality is the reality of the nuclear gun barrel thrust point-blank into mankind's face. In the face of this reality, many people, in West and East, are gaining insight. At this "moment of truth," mankind recalls many conclusions drawn earlier: on interdependence, on the fact that force has ceased to be an instrument of policy in the nculear age, on how we are all ultimately the crew of a single ship.

The present impressive breakthrough in the nuclear disarmament sphere took place—in the United States, in any case—not because of the activity of professionals but as a result of the initiatives of the political leadership. Let me repeat, that is why a whole team of "hawks," headed by their "captain" C. Weinberger, had to leave their posts.

Yes, the times are changing, and even the American military are forced to change with them. The Joint Chiefs of Staff supported the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles, for the first time without demanding another weapon system by way of compensation, although this could mean tacit consent on the part of the military that, in this case, the SDI program will be the compensation.

That is why it would be premature to believe that those accustomed to thinking in terms of force in politics have been put to flight. The new thinking is still only taking its first steps. A long and difficult path lies ahead of it.

Reagan Endorses 'Position of Strength' Policy

LD121022 Moscow TASS in English 0953 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Text] Washington February 12 TASS—TASS correspondent Nikolay Turkatenko reports:

U.S. President Ronald Reagan on Thursday spoke to the activists of U.S. conservative organisations which champion "strong America". His speech demonstrates that in the Washington corridors of power they still think in a considerable measure by outmoded stereotypes which are mile apart from the real state of affairs in the world.

Proclaiming the U.S. readiness to promote the process of talks with the Soviet Union on arms control issues, which, as Reagan recalled, led to the signing of the Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, the President at the same time confirmed the determination to move forward with the "Star Wars" programme whose implementation, as eminent specialists among them American point out, can bring to a naught the opportunities to reduce strategic armaments.

The President stated the U.S. intention to pursue the position of strength policy in the future as well, interfere in the affairs of other countries and peoples. "Arms reduction negotiations, development and testing of SDI, and our help for freedom fighters (this is how they in Washington call gangs of counter-revolutionaries) around the globe must express the clear goal of American foreign policy", the President said. He expressed sincere discontent with the move by the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress against supporting the administration's demand for continued military aid to the contras.

Carlucci Cancels Further ASAT Research

LD102234 Moscow TASS in English 2117 GMT 10 Feb 88

[Text] Washington February 10 TASS—TASS correspondent I. Ignatyev reports:

U.S. Secretary of Defence Frank Carlucci has announced that he has decided to stop further realisation of the programme for the development and creation of an anti-satellite weapon system (ASAT).

In a letter sent to Republican Senator Jesse Helms, Mr Carlucci emphasized that he continued to believe that the United States was in need of an operational ASAT system and that he made this decision with reluctance.

The Pentagon chief explains that he resorted to this step because he does not see any other choice in the conditions when funds for this programme are being slashed, and the U.S. Congress declines to remove the ban on testing an ASAT system against a real target in outer space.

Carlucci Cited on INF Treaty Ratification
LD082203 Moscow TASS in English 2144 GMT 8 Feb 88

[Text] New York February 8 (TASS)—U.S. Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci today gave an interview to the NBC television company, in which he spoke about prospects for the ratification of the Treaty on the Elimination of All Soviet and U.S. Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles.

He said that during his testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee he felt strong support for the treaty.

The defense secretary expressed the hope that the ratification process would develop as fast as possible.

The Pentagon chief had just returned from a trip to Western Europe where he had held talks with U.S. NATO allies.

He said in this connection that plans to modernise NATO armaments, including tactical nuclear weapons, remained unchanged. In particular, artillery nuclear munitions, he said, were already being replaced with new ones.

In Carlucci's opinion, such actions do not contradict the INF Treaty and will not reflect on the course of its ratification.

Senate Seeks Shultz Assurance on INF Treaty
LD110857 Moscow TASS in English 0810 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Washington February 11 TASS—TASS correspondent Nikolay Turkatenko reports:

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz sent a letter to Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman Sam Nunn, which assures that the administration "will in no way depart from the INF Treaty as we are presenting it to the Senate".

Such assurances were needed in conjunction with the conditions set forth [word indistinct] the Senate leadership which, in its opinion, the administration should observe before the upper chamber of the U.S. Congress gives its consent to the ratification of the treaty. The matter is that the Democratic majority leaders in the Senate earlier notified Shultz about their decision to consider the issue of adopting measures to prevent any amendments in the administration's position on the Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty.

The move was prompted by the White House attitude towards the 1972 Antiballistic Missile Treaty (ABM). During the Senate hearings on its ratification officials of the administration of President Nixon supported all provisions of this important document in their entirety, which categorically bans the deployment of anti-missile defence systems in space. The current administration, however, in a bid to clear the way for its "Star Wars" programme, set out to insist on a new, the so-called broader, interpretation of the ABM Treaty. This stance sparked off outrage in the Senate, the majority of whose members refuse to recognise the administration's right to such manoeuvres.

For the express purpose of preventing any possibility of changes in the administration's attitude to the INF Treaty, Senate Majority Leader Robert W. Byrd and Sam Nunn set the following condition in a letter to the U.S. Secretary of State: Either the administration gives respective assurances or the Senate will get down to the study of verbatim reports of the talks on the intermediate nuclear forces and will elaborate on this basis a special legislative measure that will bind the administration to adhere to such a stance on it which it held during the Senate hearings. They warned that this would be a very lengthy process which could delay the hearings for a long time. The senators stated that the hearings on the treaty would not be resumed pending the resolution of this issue.

Judging by Shultz's reply letter, the administration preferred not to enter into arguments with the Senate leadership.

Byrd and Nunn met with satisfaction the assurances by the U.S. secretary of state and said that they allowed the resumption of the hearings on the INF Treaty jointly with administration officials already next week.

The newspaper THE WASHINGTON POST writes that the assurances given by Shultz are sure to intensify the struggle in the Senate against the administration's attempts to adopt a permissive reading of the language of the ABM Treaty. It says that the concession to senators contained in Shultz's letter actually overturns the administration's position that it may not regard itself bound by the traditional interpretation of the treaty since this was not specially stipulated during the voting on the document in the Senate.

General Denies SH-11 System Breaches ABM Treaty
PM111431 Moscow Moscow NEWS in English No 6, 7 Feb 88 p 5

[Major General Boris Surikov article: "Encroachment Upon the Truth: THE WASHINGTON TIMES Against SH-11"]

[Text] A few days ago, THE WASHINGTON TIMES published an article in which the author speculated on the development in the Soviet Union of an infrared tracking and homing system for new SH-11 ground-based interceptor missiles deployed in underground launching silos round the Soviet capital.

Let's leave to the paper's conscience and allegations that the Soviets are using the technology obtained in the USA by an agent of the Polish secret service. Such "facts" are chiefly meant for the US allies, who are being prompted to introduce ever new and tougher restrictions on goods exchange with socialist countries. Let's concentrate on the essence of the accusations made in the article.

Referring to American officials whose names are not mentioned, the paper alleges that the development of such a system is nothing, but a violation of the Soviet-American ABM Treaty inasmuch as this optical system is a violation of the ban, recorded in the ABM Treaty, on the use of systems based on other physical principles. This assertion is false.

I participated in the negotiations preparing the way for the ABM Treaty and can say with full responsibility that no designers' restrictions on permitted components of the ABM system, based on traditional interceptor missiles, have been imposed. The question of whether to use on interceptor missiles commmand guidance systems with radars applying homing devices or with optical-electronic devices (including those operating in infrared and ultraviolent ranges) was left to both sides to settle. The questions of design were not and could not be the subject of negotiations on the limitation of ABM systems. I think that even the former head of the American delegation at the Soviet-American talks on the SALT-1 Treaty could have vouched for this.

Just as futile is the attempt of THE WASHINGTON TIMES to outlaw the use of systems based on other physical principles. Statement D, agreed upon by the sides, reads: "In order to ensure fulfilment of the obligation not to deploy ABM systems and their components except as provided in Article III of the treaty, the sides agree that even with the creation in the future of ABM systems based on other physical principles and including components capable of acting as substitutes for ABM interceptor missiles or of ABM launchers, or ABM radars, specific limitations on such systems and their components would be subject to discussion in accordance with Article XIII and the Article XIV agreement of the treaty."

Thus, the Soviet Union has the right to mount any guidance technologies on new interceptor missiles without replacing the traditional interceptor missiles with weapons based on other physical principles (for example, lasers). The procedure for introducing such technologies has been agreed upon by the sides and is being strictly observed.

Indeed, research and experimental design work is being carried out in the USSR to develop Moscow's ABM system further. However, the modernization and replacement of the ABM systems or their components are allowed by Article VII of the ABM Treaty.

This is well known to the American side. Then why did the paper need to whip up tension around the nonexistent problem? The article it published answers this question. It shows, referring to a Washington official who preferred to remain incognito, that the tracking system for the SH-11 interceptor missiles was one of the causes behind the Joint Chiefs of Staff sending a letter to President Reagan warning him that he should not give his consent to the limitation of research and tests within the framework of SDI.

Hence, it is clear that the initiators of the publication in THE WASHINGTON TIMES needed their new venture only to add to the arsenal of "arguments" against observance of the ABM Treaty in the form it was signed in 1972. At the same time, its aims were to undermine again the Soviet-American treaty now being drawn up for a 50-per-cent reduction of strategic offensive weapons.

State Department Human Rights Report Condemned
LD111325 Moscow TASS in English 1229 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Washington February 11 TASS—The U.S. State Department Wednesday sent an annual review of human rights practices in different countries in 1987 to Congress.

Even the very first look at the document makes it clear that its compilers do not recognize any logic and are prepared readily to pass black for white whenever it suits the United States.

The State Department's report claims, for example, that the human rights situation in El Salvador last year underwent positive change and the conduct of the military and security forces there kept getting better all the time.

This despite continued brutal action against civilians and despite "death squads" committing one political murder after another.

In Grenada, the report contends, the general human rights environment in 1987 was overall good.

In fact, however, the undemocratic regime planted there by the United States in 1982 kept people in that insular state in fear and prevented any form of opposition.

The report uses very mild language to reproach the authorities of Chile, Paraguay and Haiti, where there is rampant repression and harassment, for human rights abuses.

By contrast, the authors of the document groundlessly accuse the Government of Nicaragua, whose achievement in observing the Guatemala agreement for a peace settlement in Central America is recognized by practically all nations in the region, of wholesale violations of human rights.

As to the situation in Israeli-occupied Arab lands where occupation forces have been cruelly suppressing protests by local people and where 52 persons were killed and more than 600 others wounded as troops dispersed demonstrators last month alone, the report employs an ornate style to talk about what it calls a complex situation in the territories seized by Tel Aviv.

It is indicative that when Richard Schifter, assistant secretary of state for human rights and humanitarian affairs who presented the report in a news conference, was asked why it did not say a word about either the massive human rights violations by Israel or the killings of Palestinians in the occupied areas, he replied that there was a trend of wide-spread civil unrest and Israeli efforts to end it by force there, but the situation was fairly unique and not very typical.

Just like in previous years, the latest report attacks socialist countries for alleged "human rights abuses". Schifter told newsmen with meaning that "we have not witnessed the dawn of democracy in the USSR"

The year, he claimed, did not bring any positive change in the human rights environment in Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and Romania.

The State Department official alleged "regress" in the human rights situation in China in early 1987.

He spoke harshly about the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Cuba as well.

U.S. Charged With Violating Rights of Protesters

LD121212 Moscow TASS in English 1143 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow February 12 TASS—TASS observer Dmitriy Yakubov writes:

It has become a tradition that the country report on the human rights practices published annually by the U.S. Department of State calls attention to the violation of human rights anywhere but the United States.

This year's extensive report of the U.S. Department of State does not contain this information either. For instance, it made no mention of the data received recently by the Centre for Constitutional Rights to the effect that FBI agents had actively spied on 180 U.S. public, religious and anti-war organizations from 1981 to 1985. The only reason for the spying was that the organizations rallied people who did not agree with the policy of the present administration in Central America. A right to it is provided by the U.S. Constitution.

When reports on those FBI actions reached the press, a spokesman for the White House hurried to announce that nobody in the administration had been informed of that operation.

However, Attorney General Edwin Meese, a close friend of the President, had to admit that he had not only known of the operation but had also received reports on its implementation.

Trying to hush up this unseemly affair, FBI Director William Sessions cautiously said that some of their agents had gone, perhaps, too far in their operations. However, he did not mention the fact that when agents of the FBI office in Phoenix had reported to Washington that the Tucson-based Committee for Human Rights in Latin America was a non-violent organization, a strict order had immediately come from the FBI headquarters that the spying on it should be continued.

According to THE BOSTON GLOBE, FBI accused members of those organizations of allegedly being 'agents of a foreign country' [single quotation marks as received] in order to justify its spying operations. When it became clear that this version was absolutely groundless, FBI agents began to look for ties between opponents of U.S. interference in the internal affairs of Central American countries with world terrorism. However, this false version was not proved either. Frank Varelli, retired officer of FBI agents had obviously been unconstitutional, the newspaper continued. This noteworthy admission was made right on the eve of the publication of the report on human rights practices made by the U.S. Department of State.

U.S. Reacts to Gorbachev Afghanistan Remarks

LD111314 Moscow TASS in English 1244 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Washington February 11 TASS—By TASS correspondent Igor Ignatyev:

The statement by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on Afghanistan is being attentively studied in the official circles of the USA. As the newspaper THE WASHINGTON POST notes, the decision to put off the long-planned trip to Israel and the Persian Gulf of Michael Armacost, undersecretary for political affairs, is evidence of the growing seriousness shown by the administration in examining the proposals set forth in it. Michael Armacost is known to head the high-level interdepartmental team specially formed by the Reagan administration to coordinate U.S. policy vis-a-vis Afghanistan.

The Soviet leader's statement has been met with close attention at Washington's non-governmental "brain trusts", whose recommendations are often used as a basis for some or other political decisions of the U.S. Administration. Selig Harrison, senior researcher of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, described the Soviet leader's statement as highly constructive. I believe that that it indisputably betters prospects for an Afghan settlement, he said in a TASS interview. Raymond Garthoff, a prominent politologist of the Bookings Institution, also feels that Gorbachev's statement is an epitome of a highly constructive stand. The American scholar voiced hope that the sides in the talks would soon reach agreement that will make it possible to start a practical settlement of the Afghan problem.

Robert Neumann, former U.S. ambassador to Afghanistan, who is at present a member of the Washington-based Strategic and International Research Centre, also described it in a TASS interview as a highly important statement. Its importance is predetermined in the first place by the fact that the statement was made by the Supreme Soviet leader and, second, specifically by what has been said.

Yet Jim Philip, a political expert of the Heritage Foundation, the "brain trust" of the rightists, claimed, using the old arguments of the conservatives, that the Soviet statements cannot be taken on trust. The statement by Constantine Menges, a former high-ranking official of the National Security Council, who is now member of the American Enterprise Institute made a statement roughly in the same spirit. Addressing a "symposium" convened in Washington with the participation of Afghan counter-revolutionaries by the so-called committee "Free Afghanistan", he claimed that the possibilities exist only on conditon that the free world, including the USA, firmly back the Afghan counter-revolutionaries and increase the volume of aid channelled to them.

Rassadin on Failure of Murphy's Middle East Tour
LD112014 Moscow World Service in English 1810 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Leonid Rassadin commentary]

[Text] The United States Assistant Secretary of State, Richard Murphy, has ended a visit to the Middle East. Leonid Rassadin comments:

What is significant about Mr Murphy's tour of several Middle East capitals is that it was very quiet and inconspicious. Although Mr Murphy tried to avoid contacts with inquisitive newsmen whenever possible, some details have leaked to the press. For instance he is said to have enquired about the likely attitude to the United States' new ideas concerning the Middle East settlement. The details of these proposals have been kept secret. What is known is that Washington has suggested granting the Palestinians some sort of autonomy on the occupied territories.

It was clear from the outset that the Arab reaction to this U.S. initiative was far from being enthusiastic. They failed to find anything new in it: in the first place because it ignores the main thing, the legitimate right of the Palestinian Arabs for statehood. What's the United States' attitude to an international peace conference on the Middle East as something all Arab states have repeatedly called for? The American Administration hasn't dared to dismiss the idea of such a conference offhand. However, it has invariably insisted on separate talks with Israel, without any participation of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

This approach to the Middle East problem is very likely to aggravate the crisis of confidence in the United States in the Arab world. Mr Murphy's visit to the Middle East has failed to bring about any positive change. Moreover, Israel, the close ally of the United States, has stepped up the already crude massive abuse of the rights of the Palestinians in the occupied territories.

Korshunov on Results of Whitehead E. Europe Tour
LD102240 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1230 GMT 10 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow, 10 Feb (TASS)—TASS observer Aleksandr Korshunov writes:

Reviewing the results of the recent "East European trip" by U.S. Deputy Secretary of State John Whitehead, one can talk without doubt about positive changes in U.S. policy toward socialist countries. The interest expressed by him in Warsaw, Sofia, Bucharest and Prague in expanding trade and economic and cultural links, certain accords and agreements that have been reached, the coincidence of views on a number of matters relating to limiting armaments and strengthening European security—visible in all this is the great realism by comparison with last year's trip by Whitehead to the same region, not to mention U.S. policy in previous years.

On the whole, there is nothing surprising in this. The international climate that has changed for the better is also having a beneficial influence on the development of bilateral links between states, including the United States, and prompting it "to demonstrate a willingness to improve relations," as the high-ranking U.S. diplomat put it himself before the start of his trip.

It would indeed seem that in this case, this readiness does not come just from the adminsitration's goodwill. There are other weighty reasons, too. At a time when the United States has a $160 billion foreign trade deficit and international competition is getting worse, business circles in the United States need new spheres for their activity. The artificial obstacles and limitations introduced earlier by the adminsitration with regard to the socialist countries obviously do not suit them. The dissatisfaction of U.S. firms is also being felt more and more at the Cocom list of restrictions, which forbids the export to socialist countries of 40 percent of a list of

goods which has absolutely no connection with military aims. It has been calculated that every year, U.S. companies lose $9 billion because of the Cocom barriers. Obviously it was not by chance that Whitehead's trip to Europe began with his taking part in a Cocom session in Paris, at which, along with a tightening of the screws, the most hateful limitations on exports were nevertheless lifted.

It is true that trade is a bilateral matter. U.S. firms will hardly succeed in their wish to expand their exports to Bulgaria or Czechoslovakia, for example, if exorbitant customs duties continue to block the path of Bulgarian or Czechoslovak goods into the U.S. market. But the State Department representative did not say anything definite about granting normal trading conditions to these two countries.

U.S. exports to Poland will hardly be able to reach their desired level if the existing U.S. practice of refusing credits for Polish export goods—which makes it difficult for them to make progress into U.S. markets—is maintained. Whitehead frequently recalled that last year, Poland was once again granted most favored nation status in trade with the United States. But evidently it is appropriate to remember also the fact that the U.S. sanctions which were operative in the last few years with regard to Poland inflicted $15 billion damage on the PPR. Indeed the U.S. guest's statements "of U.S. loyalty to the cause of freedom and prosperity of the Polish people" somehow do not tie in with his clearly stipulated dependence of further development of bilateral links on "our assessment of the situation and of the prospects in the process of human rights and national reconciliation in Poland."

The utterances and statements of the deputy U.S. secretary of state, which have been heard in the course of the trip, constitute a model of diplomatic courtesy and are of a complimentary character. True, this cannot be said of certain specific actions of the guest who, while in Warsaw, Bucharest and Prague, suddenly "forgot" that he was a guest, and adopted the pose of a host receiving opposition members, or simply renegades, in the detached residences of U.S. Embassies. Moreover, as is evident from Whitehead's own words, he conducted serious political conversations. What lies behind this? Disrespect for official representatives who invited him, or an illusory calculation of the force and influence of the said private individuals?

Questions also arise in connection with Whitehead's statement at a news conference in Warsaw, that the United States had recognized the error of its previous identical attitude to all East European countries and "has now understood the need for a special approach to each of them."

How is it that after the past 25 years at least, it is only now that we hear U.S. officials speaking about a "differentiating" approach to socialist countries? It is true that this sort of approach, aimed at distinguishing individual countries from the socialist community, had not yielded any special dividends to U.S. diplomacy previously.

Perhaps this time what is involved here is a really new approach, born of new realities in the modern world and accumulated previous experience—not of the era of confrontation. We would like to hope that this is so. We hope that not simply individual actions or gestures of the United States will be guided by realism but its entire policy regarding socialist countries. We would like to hope that specific U.S. actions, rather than just words, will match that constructive interest in cooperation, readiness for the continuation of dialogue and goodwill that has been shown by the leadership of socialist countries in the way it received the U.S. guest.

Commentary on U.S. Bill on Cocom Restrictions

LD112317 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 2000 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] We follow with a commentary of the latest session of the Cocom coordination committee for control of exports of strategically important goods to the socialist countries.

A short while ago, the United States Senate passed a bill under which those companies or their affiliates violating Cocom restrictions shall be banned from the United States, together with their goods and services.

The text of the bill submitted to the House of Representatives of the Congress is about to become law. We've asked our observer to comment on that step by the United States Senate, and here's what he writes:

That decision was prompted largely by the United States desire to restrict the activities of their West European rivals on the world market. The past months have seen ever more vigorous protests from many large firms and companies in the West against the Cocom restrictions, and increased interest of various countries in the Soviet market is not the only aspect of the problem. (?The mentioned) restrictions infringe on the interests even of those companies (?without trading) relations with the socialist countries. For instance, a British computer manufacturing factory requires an export license from the Ministry of Trade if its products contain American components.

Recently the European Parliament received a document calling attention to the attempts by two American computer manufacturing corporations, IBM and Digital Equipment, to impose American laws on their European partners. The document calls for free technological exchanges within the EEC.

West Europeans have long wished to shorten the list of goods bearing a Cocom export ban. They describe this list as obviously outdated. A short while ago one small British firm in Basingstoke even appealed to a court of law asking for investigation into its case. The firm had been blacklisted for purchasing second-hand television semi-conductor equipment in the United States and reselling it to Poland. The semi-conductors in those television sets could hardly be expected to strengthen Poland's strategic potential. Besides the socialist countries could purchase goods of this kind elsewhere, say in neutral countries or those not belonging to the Cocom.

Personal computers, also liable to a Cocom ban, are now produced at 83 factories in countries outside the jurisdiction of the Cocom list. Taboos of this kind are numerous and all of them are double-edged. Indeed, the Soviet Union would like to save money by purchasing certain technologies abroad, in the course of normal trade rather than develop them itself. But this does not mean this country is not capable of developing such technologies or systems. For example, the manufacturing of high precision beads for ball bearings, which for some time was impeded by the lack of necessary machine tools banned from exports by the Cocom, is no longer a problem in this country.

The numerous protests against the bans that can only be viewed as ridiculous nowadays affected the course of the latest Cocom session. As a result, a compromise was reached following the continuous and difficult struggle. Washington was forced to make certain concessions. However, on the pretext of a Soviet threat, it managed to impose new restrictions on its allies with regard to control of what is described as strategic technology.

Lithuanians Protest U.S. Internal 'Interference'

LD112001 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 11 Feb 88

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] We have already told you, comrades, that the U.S. Congress and some of its members, distorting historical facts, are interfering crudely in the internal affairs of socialist Lithuania.

[Reporter A. Paulyus, identified by screen caption] Vilnius: The Presidium of the Lithuanian SSR Supreme Soviet. A session of the republic's Supreme Soviet, at which a statement from a group of Supreme Soviet deputies addressed to the U.S. Congress was approved, was held here 3 months ago. [video shows exterior of a building; then shots of documents printed in Lithuanian, English and Russian—the English and Russian versions are entitled "Declaration of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR"]

The document says that recently, the U.S. Congress, some of its members, and other state figures have made repeated statements in which distortions of historical facts and crude interference in the internal affairs of the Lithuanian SSR were committed."

After publication of this declaration by the group of deputies, a stream of letters poured in to the Presidium of the Lithuanian SSR Supreme Soviet, many of them from groups. [video shows the Lithuanian version of the document, then some letters strewn over a table]

[A.K. Laurinchyukas, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Lithuanian SSR Supreme Soviet, identified by screen caption] We at the Presidium of the Lithuanian SSR Supreme Soviet have received more than 58,000 letters. For example, this is what Vrachyunas Morozas and some builders of a youth residential complex write: We are glad that we live in the fraternal family of Soviet peoples, and we shall not permit anybody to interfere in our affairs. From a fish farm in Klaipeda rayon, Stripkauskine, Shumskas, and others write the following: We have chosen our path in life and protest to the U.S. Congressmen who are interfering in our affairs.

This year, we in Lithuania shall be celebrating a great holiday, the jubilee marking the 70th anniversary of the establishment of Soviet power in our republic; and no forces in the world can divert us from this path, which we ourselves have chosen and along which we are firmly intent on proceeding.

[Paulyus] The authors of the letters—workers, kolkhoz workers, white-collar employees, students, and schoolchildren—express unanimous support for the declaration and for the policy of the CPSU.

Gan Comments on Results of Iowa Caucuses

PM111647 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Feb 88 Second Edition pp 1,5

[Own correspondent Vitaliy Gan article: "Iowa's Verdict," under the rubric "Correspondent's Commentary"]

[Excerpts] Washington—The time has come in the American political calendar for the next battle for the White House between the Democratic and Republican parties, which will culminate in the U.S. presidential elections in November this year.

The first test of strength of the 13 contenders (7 Democrats and 6 Republicans) took place Monday evening in the state of Iowa, which has become the official starting block in the "race for the White House." [passage omitted]

The results of the caucuses, available by the morning of 9 February, made it more clear, although obviously was not the final word, as to who can hope to be a contender

for the White House. In other words, the line has now been drawn between the leading contenders and those who will have to drop out, their efforts having been in vain.

There have been no particular surprises for the Democrats in this process. Congressman R. Gephardt, Senator P. Simon, and Massachusetts State Governor M. Dukakis have taken the lead, being given preference by 31.2 percent, 26.7 percent, and 22.1 percent respectively in the caucuses. Former Governor of Arizona Babbitt and former Senator Hart suffered defeat, which observers regard as the "death sentence" for their campaigns. The black pastor J. Jackson did better than expected, thereby guaranteeing himself a prominent role in the national convention; his nomination for the presidency has never been taken seriously because of the color of his skin, which still does not correspond to Americans' idea of what their leaders should be.

But there was a real sensation in the Republican camp. Although victory had been predicted for Senator R. Dole, no one had thought that Pat Robertson, the former television preacher, would be able to squeeze out U.S. Vice President G. Bush and take second place. Mainly supported by religious fanatics, Robertson's success has so reshuffled the pack of Republican contenders that, according to ABC-TV, the party leadership is, quite frankly, nervous. As far as Bush is concerned, his positions have been dealt such a cruel blow that the vice president's ability to rectify the situation in the coming battles is now in doubt.

There is really no need to guess the reasons for Bush's fall, as he is carrying on his shoulders the heavy burden of the shortcomings inherent in the current administration's socioeconomic policy. The "Irangate" scandal, which shook the White House, is still making Americans question the role played by the vice president, who has not been very convincing in proving his noninvolvement.

So has Iowa taught us any lessons? As results of the caucuses have shown, Americans are seriously concerned by the problems of social injustice and the shakiness of the economy, which is apparent in the budget deficits. In contrast to previous years, displeasure and alarm regarding the militarist spree in the country and the unrestrained arms race were clearly apparent right at the start in Iowa. It is no accident that Dole, for example, revised his previous stand and in Iowa stated his firm support for the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles. "People want the kind of government that will show some concern for them and build a safer world," Senator Simon summed up the popular feeling....

China

PRC Opposes UNSC Meeting on KAL Incident

OW121115 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0300 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Text] China has rejected a request by Japan and South Korea for an emergency meeting of the UN Security Council to denounce People's Korea's involvement in the disappearance of a South Korean airliner in November 1987.

A statement by the Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman in Beijing read: The UN Security Council's discussion of the airliner incident will not be conducive to strengthening stability on the Korean peninsula or easing tension there.

Earlier, at a press conference in New York, the UN-based observer of People's Korea condemned the campaign hostile to North Korea. He emphatically pointed out: The explosive device on the airliner bound for Seoul from Baghdad was planted by a South Korean agent when the plane stopped over in Addis Ababa [name of city as heard].

Soviet, Chinese Trade Firms Sign Contract

OW110500 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 1500 GMT 9 Feb 88

[Text] Representatives of the Soviet Far East Import-Export Company and China's Jilin Provincial Import-Export Company siged a trade agreement worth 20 million yuan of Renminbi in Nakhodka on 9 February. Under the agreement, the Soviet side will supply timber and fishery products to China, while Jilin Province will provide the Soviet Union with apples, citrus, peanuts, and other consumer goods. The representatives also discussed the possibility of the establishment of joint ventures, the exchange of experts, and the provision of Chinese workers to the Soviet Union.

Reforms' Impact on Living Standards Viewed

PM101411 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Feb 88 Second Edition p 4

[Article by Candidate of Economic Sciences A. Denisov: "First Results: On Some Aspects of CPC Social Policy"]

[Text] Public opinion polls are extensively employed in the PRC.

They reveal people's attitude to the most diverse aspects of China today. Much has been set in motion since the long period of stagnation. Major transformations have been implemented in the PRC since 1979.

Important improvements in the social sphere were outlined at the 13th CPC Congress, held last fall. The party forum set the task of further enhancing Chinese working people's living standards.

Ordinary citizens' assessment of the changes taking place in the country's life forms the main topic of the polls. As a rule, the absolute majority of those polled—more than 90 percent—support the course of all-around reform and the acceleration of socioeconomic development and pin their hopes for the future on them.

In the fifties, after the establishment of people's power, much was done in China to end the legacy of poverty. Then, for 2 decades, the normal process of socialist building was disrupted in the PRC. This was reflected in working people's living standards. In 1959-1977 real wages in the major cities fell by 27 percent. Hundreds of millions of peasants also found themselves in a difficult position.

The situation has changed over the last decade. Increasing national prosperity has been one of the main goals of the reform policy.

The task is to create a society of "modest sufficiency" by the year 2000, raising national per capita income to $800-1000 per year (it is now roughly one-third of that). It is being tackled in the difficult conditions of an enormous country with a population of more than 1 billion, and quite a few difficulties and contradictions have built up in the economy. The first results are thus all the more considerable.

In 1979-1986 the net monetary income of Chinese peasants more than tripled. City dwellers spent 2.6 times more of their income on consumption. True, prices also went up. In 1986, for example, they rose 6 percent, including a 7.6 percent increase in food prices, while in 1987 they rose by more than 7 percent. They showed a particularly sharp rise in 1985, when free prices, instead of state prices, were introduced for meat, eggs, vegetables, and a number of other products in cities. City dwellers received a small compensation at the time in the form of a wage supplement.

However, even in the light of the price rise, working people's real incomes have doubled in the last 9 years. In one poll more than 50 percent of city dwellers said their living standard had risen and only around 5 percent said that it had declined.

The reform of the retail price system in China is not a simple matter. The first steps in this sphere helped increase supplies to the market and reduce state subsidies on making up the difference between purchase and retail prices. Thus, subsidies in the trade in vegetables in cities alone for 1985 and 1986 fell from 12 to 7 billion yuan.

However, price rises, as the Chinese press has noted, "have affected the living standards of some workers and employees." The government has temporarily halted the price reform, laying stress on maintaining price stability. A campaign against price increases and speculation is being waged. The public are also playing a part here. Thousands of people's price-control organizations, which bring together workers and employees, have been set up in the country with trade unions' assistance. Their activity has helped in the last few years to expose almost 4 million cases of price violations and restore over 2 million yuan to purchasers.

The increase in the population's purchasing power has invigorated the market.

Food supplies have markedly improved through the introduction of the family contract and other measures to stimulate agricultural output. In 1979-1985 the amount of grain, meat, and sugar sold doubled and the amount of vegetable oil sold more than quadrupled.

Measures to speed up the development of light industry were adopted in the eighties. Heavy industrial sectors, defense enterprises, and foreign capital have been involved in producing consumer durables. As a result in 1986, as compared with 1980, the production of color televisions increased 130 times—to 4 million—production of refrigerators 46 times, and production of washing machines 37 times. Of course, the very low base figure plays a part here. Such equipment, which was virtually unknown to the Chinese population back in the seventies, has now become part of the everyday life of many Chinese families and is appearing in peasant homes too. It was decided not to expand future production of domestic electrical appliances but rather to work to enhance their quality. These products are not cheap and are far from affordable by all. Chinese consumers often complain that, when sophisticated domestic appliances arrive in the stores, cheap, practical everyday items disappear. Demand for the latter is still far greater in the PRC than demand for tape recorders produced under Japanese license.

The increase in the supply of food and industrial goods to the trade network and the price reform have made it possible to remove rationing from 44 basic items. Centralized norm-setting is now applied only to grain and vegetable oil. True, there are deviations from this procedure at local level and additional ration books and coupons are introduced. For instance, ration cards for pork were reintroduced in Beijing and a number of other cities recently.

The sale of durables is held back not only by their high cost but by the overall economic situation. People quite often talk in China of peasants who save up to buy a television and then cannot use it because there is no electricity. Electricity generation in the country is growing rapidly—8.5 percent, for example, in 1986—but it is still not enough. There must even be reductions in domestic consumption.

In recent years the PRC has begun to make progress in solving the housing problem.

Much construction work is going on now, particularly in the countryside. Throughout China peasant families, thanks to their contract earnings, are moving into new houses. They are generally simple dwellings, with a roof and walls and no special comforts. But even such accomodation marks an enormous step forward from the adobe hovels and shacks in which the mass of the peasantry lived until recently.

However, the rural construction boom has its debit side too. Housing construction swallows up almost all the peasants' increased savings. But according to Chinese economists, these would be better directed toward production needs. After all, with the switch to the family contract the state's role in developing the agrarian sector of the economy has declined. Yet plots of fertile land, which is already in short supply, are being used for new construction, despite a strict ban.

The easing of the very acute problem of surplus labor in China figures as one of the achievements in the social sphere.

In the last 9 years 70 million people have been placed in jobs in the country's cities. The rapidly growing individual sector, which is gaining an ever stronger position in trade and services, is a major area of job creation. More than 20 million people now work there.

The employment problem will clearly become aggravated in the future. New approaches to solving it must therefore be sought. "Manpower markets" are springing up in the country's cities. The economic literature is questioning the propriety of a reserve labor force.

Of course, people in China see the fundamental improvement of working people's living conditions as a long-term matter. In terms of national per capita income the republic ranks in the second hundred world states. In the countryside, for all the achievements of the reform, only one-fifth of peasant homesteads have achieved a state of "prosperity," including just over 3 percent of families whose annual income exceeds the high, by local standards, level of 1,000 yuan. At the same time, according to figures published in the Chinese press, 100 million people are unable at present to fully feed themselves—their income is under 120 yuan and 200 kg of grain per year. The government is assisting the population of backward regions by allocating resources to boost their economies.

The PRC leadership does not hide the fact that "the reforms do not always safeguard the interests of every member of society, and for that reason one has to be ready to make personal sacrifices for the good of society." However, as public opinion polls show, even those who have not yet experienced real improvements in their material position approve the reform policy. As RENMIN RIBAO has commented, the results of the latest poll have enabled Chinese sociologists to conclude that the "overwhelming majority of those polled rate the present or impending changes in society positively."

U.S. Military Bases Described as Threat

OW110050 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to Asian-Pacific Region 1300 GMT 6 Feb 88

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Former Indian Prime Minister Nehru made an appeal to Soviet and U.S. leaders 30 years ago. He said: In the atomic age, the earth is too small for new weapons. The threat to civilization worries me. I believe that the Soviet Union and the United States can overcome the crisis and rescue mankind from calamity.

The prediction Nehru, one of the founders of the Asian solidarity and nonaligned movement and a distinguished Asian leader, made has become a political reality. Leaders and well-known figures in many countries hold that the Washington Treaty is the first real contribution to nuclear disarmament and to the elimination of the nuclear threat to mankind. For instance, the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization emphatically pointed out in a recent statement issued on the occasion of its 30th anniversary: The Asian people warmly welcome the Soviet-U.S. INF Treaty and will support any new steps leading to complete nuclear disarmament.

The prospects for reducing 50 percent of offensive strategic weapons are the first thing which the Asian people are concerned about. It is likely that an agreement in this regard will be signed during the fourth Soviet-U.S. summit in Moscow in the first half of this year. It is entirely understandable that the Asian people are particularly upset by offensive strategic nuclear weapons. Intermediate- and shorter-range missiles are considered a great threat to Europe, and the offensive strategic nuclear weapons are evidently the biggest threat to the Asian-Pacific Region.

According to information from various sources, the United States has 4,000 nuclear warheads and 1,200 combat aircraft in the Asian-Pacific Region. Half those aircraft can carry nuclear weapons. There are 6 U.S. aircraft-carriers, each of which can carry 10 aircraft with nuclear arms. There are also more than 40 U.S. multifunction nuclear submarines in the Asian-Pacific Region. Some of them carry cruise missiles, while others carry Trident I missiles. Of the 1,500 U.S. military bases overseas, the largest, such as Clark and Subic, are in the Asian-Pacific Region and the Indian Ocean Region. Some political leaders in the Asian-Pacific Region describe U.S. military bases as factors for stability and security in Asia, but facts show that U.S. military bases are one of the major sources of military and nuclear

threat in the region. U.S. military bases in the Philippines, Japan, South Korea, Micronesia, and Diego Garcia can use all kinds of nuclear weapons, including strategic.

The talks between the United States and the Soviet Union on further reducing nuclear and other weapons will inevitably touch on questions concerning the nuclear weapons on U.S. military bases in the Asian-Pacific Region. The conclusion of a new treaty on reducing 50 percent of offensive strategic weapons can reduce the military threat in the Asian-Pacific Region and eliminate some nuclear weapons of mass destruction.

Indonesia's THE JAKARTA POST wrote: We welcome the development of Soviet-U.S. relations. It not only helps prevent a nuclear disaster, but also helps millions and millions of Asian, African, and Latin American people solve such urgent problems as regional conflicts, hunger, disease, and ecological crisis. Realities in the world have promoted a common objective for the international community to stop nuclear disasters and establish a nuclear-free and violence-free world.

Some people childishly think that disarmament is the job of nuclear powers alone. This is incorrect. Before the Soviet-U.S. Washington meeting, the six countries which made the proposal on peace and disarmament issued a statement, saying that the responsibility for stopping war and establishing a stable and fair world order should be borne not only by nuclear powers alone, but also by non-nuclear nations. The course of history shows that all countries in the Asian-Pacific Region and other parts of the world, regardless of their size, can play their role in attaining this great objective.

Veterans of China Fighting Mark Wuhan Jubilee

PM111337 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Feb 88 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Meeting With Internationalist Veterans"]

[Text] The capital's public met in Moscow's House of Friendship the evening of 4 February with Soviet volunteer pilots who participated in the fighting for the Chinese city of Wuhan 50 years ago. Many of these people, who were in on the start of Soviet-Chinese friendship, are continuing to fulfill their international duty—they work actively in the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society and the Chinese section of the Soviet War Veterans Committee. Addressing the gathering, they shared their memories of those terrible years of joint struggle against the Japanese aggressors.

Staffers of the PRC Embassy in the USSR and Chinese students studying in Moscow VUZ's participated in the meeting.

Northeast Asia

DPRK Issues Statement on 'Tense Situation'

LD121136 Moscow TASS in English 1030 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 12 TASS—The tense situation on the Korean peninsula makes it imperative to take urgent and effective measures to preserve peace in that region and achieve national consolidation, stresses a statement for the press by representative of the commission to prepare for a joint North-South Korea conference devoted to the issues of detente and disarmament, which was published in Pyongyang today.

A month has passed since the time when the proposal by the North for holding a meeting on February, 1988 to deal with practical issues of preparations for this conference was handed over to the South Korean side, the statement points out. However, Seoul did not give a direct answer to this day. Although the South Korean authorities continue to keep silence, the steps taken by them are aimed at complicating the atmosphere of the dialogue. These include a propaganda campaign of malicious fabrications against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) launched over the incident involving a South Korean plane, and the preparations for the large-scale manoeuvres "Team Spirit-88" conducted jointly with Washington.

The interests of a peace settlement on the Korean peninsula call for the South Korean political parties and public organisations to join more vigorously the efforts to implement the DPRK's peace initiatives for the holding of a joint North-South conference. It is met with wide support and approval among all progressive forces of the globe which link it with the realization of the hope for the earliest normalization of the situation in Korea.

The Seoul regime still has time to respond positively to the DPRK's new proposal. The republic's government, political parties and public organisations will keep acting in defence of the cause of peace, security and unification, the statement stresses.

Soviet Patrol Seizes Japanese Fishing Boat

OW120945 Tokyo KYODO in English 0845 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Text] Sendai, Feb. 12 KYODO—A Japanese fishing boat was seized on suspicion of ignoring an order to stop by a Soviet patrol boat Tuesday in the Soviet 200-mile zone, the Maritime Safety Station in Shiogama said Friday.

The 349-ton trawler No. 15 Koei Maru with a crew of 24 could not be contacted by either its owner in Shiogama, Miyagi Prefecture, or the Maritime Safety Station after being taken to the Paramushir Island in the Kuriles, officials said.

The ship was on its way back after fishing in the Bering Sea when it was seized.

U.S. Warships at Japanese Ports Denounced

OW110605 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 6 Feb 88

[Kalinin commentary]

[Text] A few days ago, a debate flared up at the Budget Committee of the Japanese Diet over observation of the three nonnuclear principles. In this connection, our military affairs commentator Kalinin writes as follows:

As is well known, the Japan Socialist Party [JSP]'s demand for a halt to calls at Japanese ports by U.S. warships carrying nuclear weapons paralyzed the Diet session for several days. Despite the Japanese government's denial, it is beyond doubt that U.S. warships carrying nuclear weapons call at Japan's ports. This fact has been confirmed by testimony of many prominent U.S. military personnel and politicians, and also disclosed in declassified secret documents. This fact is further evidenced by the existence of special disposal units at U.S. naval bases in Japan in preparation for unanticipated accidents involving nuclear weapons. This issue, raised by the JSP, thus has justifiable grounds.

What makes the issue even more serious are the unceasing port calls in Japan by U.S. warships equipped with Tomahawk nuclear cruise missiles. The issue of the introduction of nuclear weapons has assumed a new and more alarming dimension as the result of the presence of these missiles. What will this actually mean?

According to an explanation by (Tinnel), one of the creators of the missile, the Tomahawk is an attack-type weapon and meant as a first-strike arm; it will be of no service unless it is used for surprise attacks. This explanation is true. The Tomahawk missile has a range of 2,600 kilometers and is equipped with a 200-kiloton nuclear warhead. It flies at very low altitude and is capable of moving toward targets undetected and bypassing anti-aircraft defenses. In addition, it hits its target accurately with a deviation of only 5-35 meters. Because of these technical features, military experts have sufficient grounds to view this type of missile as a strategic offensive weapon.

Misgivings have been growing in Japan and its neighboring countries under these circumstances. Free access by U.S. warships carrying Tomahawk missiles to Japanese ports not only violates Japan's three nonnuclear principles, but also actually turns Japan into a foothold for deployment of strategic offensive weapons. In this context, Japan's official position of sticking to a defensive-only military policy is now changing.

There is another aspect to be considered in this regard. A new positive trend has been formed toward healthy international relations since the signing of the INF treaty between the USSR and the United States. The two countries are scheduled to work out a draft treaty on a 50-percent cut in strategic offensive weapons and, among other things, this treaty is to seek control of the deployment of long-range air-launched nuclear cruise missiles. Under these situations, the calls by U.S. warships carrying Tomahawks to Japanese ports cannot but be viewed as an attempt to hamper nuclear disarmament.

Japan Renews Claims On 'Northern Territories'

LD062305 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 6 Feb 88

[Boris Andrianov Commentary]

[Text] According to a KYODO news agency report from Tokyo, the eighth Northern Territories Day is to be held in Japan on 8 February. A commentary by Boris Andrianov:

The idea behind the action, which, for 8 years running, has been held on 7 February by decision of the Japanese government, is to create the impression that there is some territorial problem existing between the Soviet Union and Japan. Or, to put it more bluntly, official Tokyo is trying to bolster its false version as to the primordial Japanese lands which are, it is said, illegally held by our country. In short, at issue is Japan's territorial claims on the Soviet Union.

What lands are these that our far eastern neighbor has its eyes on? By the Northern Territories, what is meant are the southern islands of the Kurile chain. Yet the historical chronicles testify that it was Russian land explorers and seafarers who discovered, studied, and developed the Kuriles back in the 17th and 18th centuries, and that it was only in the last century that Japan took advantage of Russia's weakness to take over the Kurile islands. Our country's historic rights to this territory were established by agreements and treaties at the time of World War II and in the postwar period. I will not attempt to list all these documents, but I will recall just the separate peace treaty signed in San Francisco on 8 September 1951. It states clearly that Japan relinquishes all its rights, legal grounds, and claims on the Kurile islands.

Tokyo knows this, but nevertheless it has put forward a version involving the existence of a territorial dispute. This was done when the Soviet Union and Japan were conducting talks prior to the conclusion of the joint declaration of 1956 on ending the state of war between the two countries, and on the establishment of diplomatic relations between them. I should note that at that time the Soviet side, together with the Japanese side, examined all Tokyo's arguments with care and attention and adjudged them unfounded and the claims on our country illegal. From this derived the well-known formula by which there is no territorial dispute in relations between the Soviet Union and Japan.

In the 30 years or so since that time, nothing has changed, so there is no good reason to review this formula. However, to judge by everything, Tokyo is studiously ignoring this self-evident truth. The fact that this fabricated problem has been elevated to the level of state policy warrants attention. A widespread campaign is being stirred up for the return of the Northern Territories. Furthermore, it is assuming a nature that borders on hostility toward our country. Sometimes all this smacks of open political blackmail.

Here is the most recent example: in the past few days a joint conference has been held in Tokyo of the Soviet-Japanese and Japanese-Soviet committees for economic cooperation. In the course of the conference the head of the Soviet delegation was met by Saito, president of Japan's Federation of Economic Organizations. He did not miss the opportunity of talking about the Northern Territories, stressing that this issue ought to be resolved before getting down to economic cooperation. One gets the impression that somebody is not at all keen on positive movements in the relations between Japan and the USSR.

USSR-Japan Society Holds Meeting

OW041012 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] The Central Board of Directors of the USSR-Japan Society met in the National Friendship Hall in Moscow on 29 January. The meeting heard a report on the society's 1987 activities and approved its 1988 agenda.

It was noted at the meeting that 1988 is a memorable year for the society because it marks the 30th anniversary of its founding. One of the major events planned for this memorable year is the sixth all-union conference to be held in June, which will sum up activities of the USSR-Japan Society for the past 5 years and adopt decisions on most effective ways and means to develop cooperation with social organizations in Japan. Executive officials of the society's 19 regional branches will meet in Moscow and Khabarovsk to prepare for the conference.

Also, the sixth Round-Table Conference of Soviet and Japanese Citizens will be held in October. This year it is Moscow's turn to host the conference. The Central Board meeting expressed the hope that this conference, which has become a good tradition, will further develop USSR-Japan relations and contribute to better understanding among the Japanese of the disarmament policy pursued by the Soviet Union. The seventh USSR-Japan No-War Pledge rallies to be held in August in Khabarovsk, Moscow, Ordzhonikidze and Leningrad are also dedicated to the same cause.

The second USSR-Japan symposium will be held in the Soviet Union this year, in which academicians, politicians, and civil activists will discuss ways to strengthen good-neighborliness and cooperation in the Asian and Pacific region.

In Japan, events such as the Soviet Union Day, exhibitions, festivals, the traditional Friendship Month, and an antiwar symposium will be held under the aegis of the USSR-Japan Society and in cooperation with Japanese friendship groups. Also, art troupes from the RSFSR, Ukrainian, Azerbaijan, and other SSR's will perform in Japan.

The Central Board meeting elected Yuriy Volmer, minister of Maritime Fleet, as president of the society. Volmer was the first ordinary seaman to become the captain of an oceangoing ship, and then the head of the Far East Maritime Fleet of Maritime Province. He became minister of Maritime Fleet in 1987 as successor to Timofey Guzhenko, who retired the same year.

Attendants at the meeting observed a 1-minute silent prayer for the late Shinkichi Ikejima, an executive member of the Japan-USSR Friendship Society who died recently. Ikejima made great congributions to the strengthening of friendship and goodneighborliness between the Japanese and Soviet peoples.

Southeast Asia & Pacific

U.S.-ASEAN Talks Result in 'Failure'

LD121017 Moscow TASS in English 0856 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Text] Washington February 12 TASS—The eighth annual economic dialogue between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the United States, that drew to a close in Washington Thursday, has been a failure. This is shown already by the fact that the sides decided not to publish a communique upon the results of the two-day economic meeting at which the U.S. side was represented by Allen Wallis, under secretary for economic affairs, and ASEAN by Yeo Cheow Tong, minister of state for health and foreign affairs of Singapore.

The disagreements emerged already on the first day of its work when U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz addressed the participants in the meeting. Later he met and talked with the Singaporean minister. The head of the U.S. foreign policy department said at the opening of the conference that the United States would "press ahead in our campaign against protectionist folly." Meanwhile, Shultz had to hear in reply rather sharp statements by the Singaporean minister who said bluntly that the United States' latest actions "have shaken ASEAN's confidence in these promises" of its powerful trade partner.

The stumbling block is the administration's decision to deny Singapore customs privileges in trade. Early this year, the administration announced the withdrawal starting January 2, 1989 of GSP (Generalized System of Preference) benefits to Singapore.

Singapore holds that by its decision the United States "has undermined the promises of good faith on which relations between states are based," Yeo Cheow Tong said.

Philippines Requests Transfer of U.S. Bases

LD121216 Moscow TASS in English 1200 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Text] Manila February 12 TASS—The Philippine delegation to the talks on the status of U.S. military bases in the country is going to press for a full transfer of the Pentagon facilities to the jurisdication of the Philippines, Justice Minister Sedfrey Ordonez said here.

He said in a statement that the command of the U.S. bases blatantly ignored Philippine laws and connived at outrages committed by U.S. soldiers in the cities of Angeles and Olongapo, close to the U.S. bases.

Specifically, he mentioned a recent scandalous incident in which a U.S. military patrol set dogs on several Philippine teenagers.

Lizichev Holds Talks With Laotian Leader

LD121118 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0800 GMT 12 Feb 88

[From the "Novosti" newscast; video report by A. Galkin as identified by caption]

[Text] The visit to Vietnam, Kampuchea, and Laos of a soviet military delegation headed by Army General Lizichev, member of the CPSU Central Committee and chief of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy, has ended.

[Galkin] Laos became the last point of the trip by Soviet political workers around friendly countries of Indochina. Army General Lizichev and the political workers accompanying him were received by Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and chairman of the republic's Council of Ministers. He expressed satisfaction over the relations of sincere friendship between the armies of the two countries, talked about the results of the recently ended plenum of the party's central Committee, and gave information on the situation in Laos.

Comrade Lizichev acquainted Phomvihan with the course of restructring in the Soviet Union and in particular in the armed forces.

Amnesty in Vietnam Demonstrates 'Humanism'

LD111844 Moscow TASS in English 1718 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Hanoi February 11 TASS—TASS correspondent Andrey Nizamutdinov reports:

The Council of Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam decided on the amnesty on the occasion of the traditional holiday of the Vietnamese people—the Lunar New Year. As many as 6,406 prisoners, including [word indistinct] servicemen and officials of the former puppet Saigon regime will be released from prisons and camps for reeducation. The terms of 2,768 prisoners will be considerably cut for exemplary conduct.

Speaking at a press conference in Hanoi today, Deputy Minister of Information of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Phan Quang noted that the decision of the Council of Ministers shows the humanism of the policy conducted by the people's power. This was vividly shown in the spring of 1975. It was said in the West that the communists will stage a bloodbath after they establish control over the south of Vietnam. As is known, there were no reprisals and the placing of many officials of the Saigon regime in reeducation camps [word indistinct] the minimum measure of punishment for those who had committed heinous crimes against their people.

Those who will be released after the present decree on amnesty include eleven Saigon generals, 21 colonels, 35 chaplains, members of the puppet cabinet, senators, other high-ranking officials.

So only 159 representatives of the Saigon regime, that is only some 0.2 percent of the persons who were detained in 1975 will remain in reeducation camps after this amnesty. "We hope that the persons who will be freed will be contributing as much they can to the cause of national construction and social and economic development in the country", Phan Quang said in conclusion.

Near East & South Asia

More on India's Pant Visit to Moscow

Holds Talks With Gorbachev

LD111720 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1608 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow, 11 Feb (TASS)—In the Kremlin today, Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, received Krishna Chandra Pant, the Indian defense minister, who handed him a personal message from Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

After acquainting himself with the message and welcoming the guest, Mikhail Gorbachev asked him to convey to Rajiv Gandhi that the Soviet leadership is fully devoted to the accords reached during the summit meetings and to the principles and spirit of the Delhi declaration. The

Soviet Union is interested in further enhancing the international role of independent, progressive, and dynamically developing India, which is making an irreplaceable contribution to world affairs.

The choice in favor of friendship and priority cooperation with India is deepening and enriching a tradition that has existed for decades. It is more stable for the fact that it touches the hearts of millions of people in both countries and relies on substantial mutual political interests. Mikhail Gorbachev highly assessed the significance of the Soviet-Indian festival, which brought our peoples very close together.

It is very important that two states belonging to different social systems, which have vast and unique histories, provide an example of such unprecedented cooperation. This is of benefit to our two great peoples, to all peoples, and to the entire world community. Only those who are possessed by selfish motives and who do not want India to occupy a place in the world that corresponds to its weight and authority can be unconcerned with this or oppose it.

Regular contacts and the exchange of messages with Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi are a central element of friendly Soviet-Indian cooperation. There is no single topical issue of international significance on which we would not like to exchange information, opinions, and thoughts. Mikhail Gorbachev asked that it be conveyed to Rajiv Gandhi that he cherishes this constant friendly dialogue with him.

This level and scale of Soviet-Indian cooperation is especially important now, as reactionary militaristic circles are consolidating in an attempt to disrupt the positive processes that have begun in the spheres of disarmament and international security. They do not stop at even the most unworthy methods in their efforts to discredit the policy and leaders of peace loving powers.

However, these circles are opposed by an impressive reality: the line of pursuing disarmament, equal rights, and normalization of international relations is meeting with ever greater support from the world public and among the realistic circles of the majority of countries, and this instills optimism.

The minister agreed with this, noting the fact that the growth of those forces had been called into being by the enterprising and comprehensive policies of the USSR and other peace loving states. He highly assessed the activities of the Soviet leadership, which, as he put it, are marked by a harmony of word and deed and by a firmness in the implementation of ideas that have been worked out on the basis of a difficult analysis. This is particularly important for the young generation. It has seen the imperatives of the nuclear age and of the scientific and technological revolution, but, thanks to the Soviet Union's new policies, has, as it were, been given a charter of values and an integral concept that provides a general direction for their uncoordinated wishes, attitudes, and aspirations.

Krishna Chandra Pant stressed the principal importance of the treaty on medium- and shorter-range missiles, expressed the hope that it will be ratified despite the resistance of certain forces, and wished for success at the negotiations on reducing strategic nuclear arms.

They discussed the Afghan problem and reviewed the possible development of events in connection with the statements by Mikhail Gorbachev and Najibullah. The sides confirmed their common interest that Afghanistan should be an independent, nonaligned and neutral state, and friendly toward the USSR and India.

The two sides' expressed concern at the stepping up of U.S. military aid to Pakistan and the dangerous aspects of the nuclear program being implemented in that country.

Mikhail Gorbachev expressed a positive attitude with regard to the responsible actions of the Indian Government on the question of the ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka.

The sides stated with satisfaction that cooperation between the USSR and India in military matters continues to develop successfully. Questions related to this are resolved in a cordial, fruitful, and friendly atmosphere. Agreement was reached on studying new ideas that have emerged at talks between the defense ministers of the two countries during the course of the present visit.

Ambassador T.N. Kaul, who took part in the conversation, gave Mikhail Gorbachev a letter from S.D. Sharma, vice president of India. As head of the international jury that awards the Indira Gandhi international peace prize, he informed Mikhail Gorbachev that he had been awarded this prize last year and invited him to the award ceremony. Mikhail Gorbachev expressed profound gratitude and stressed the political significance of the prize, which symbolizes the contribution made by the great daughter of the Indian people to elevating her country and to strengthening the relations of friendship and trust between India and the USSR.

Dmitriy Yazov, USSR defense minister, took part in the meeting.

Departs on Tour

LD111529 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1415 GMT 11 Feb 88

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Indian Defense Minister Pant, who is in our country on an official, friendly visit, left Moscow today for a tour of the country. The eminent guest was seen off

at the airport by Army General Yazov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, and other officials. Among those who saw him off was Kaul, ambassador of the Indian Republic to the USSR.

Afghan Deputy Premier on Coalition Government

PM121051 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 11 Feb 88 First Edition p 3

[B. Gan dispatch: "The Afghans Themselves Must Resolve the Afghan Question"]

[Text] Kabul—The statement on Afghanistan by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and the speech by President Najibullah on national television setting forth the positions of both countries' governments on the achievement of a political settlement of the military conflict in Afghanistan are being studied attentively by that country's public.

"The Soviet Union and Afghanistan have once again confirmed that they favor the speediest resolution of the Afghan problem by political means. Readiness to commence the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan 15 May 1988 and complete their withdrawal in 10 months serves precisely this purpose," Muhammad Hasan Sharq, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Committee For Returnees Affairs, said in a conversation with me.

This man's name is well known in Afghanistan, particularly among people of the older generation. A trained army doctor, Sharq was one of the closest assistants of M. Daoud, who held the post of prime minister in the country's monarchal government for many years. For approximately 10 years Sharq headed Daoud's private office. After the overthrow of King Zahir Shah in 1973, Dr Sharq was deputy prime minister for 3 years. Sharq returned to active politics after the proclamation in early 1987 of the course of national reconciliation in Afghanistan.

"The conflict in our country," he continued, "has already lasted more than 8 years. It is really one of the most serious sensitive regional conflicts."

"The endeavor to reach a political settlement of the Afghan problem at the Geneva talks," Sharq continued, "is accompanied by efforts to create a coalition government in the country. I must say that definite steps have already been taken in this direction. Representatives of leftist democratic circles have been brought in to the cabinet of ministers. I regard my participation in the work of the Afghan Government as confirmation that the PDPA sincerely desires cooperation with all national patriotic forces in order to restore peace in the country. You must not forget that I held an important post in the regime which was overthrown as a result of the April Revolution," Sharq smiled. "Nor are representatives of the Islamic opposition excluded from the process of setting up a coalition government—they have been offered 28 seats in the government."

"I agree with the viewpoint of Soviet leader Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev on the question of setting up a coalition government in Afghanistan," Sharq continued talking. "This is really a purely domestic Afghan question and it must indeed be resolved only by the Afghans themselves, even if they belong to different, even opposing camps. The country's leadership holds a quite definite stance on this question—President Najibullah has frequently declared his readiness to meet with any opposition leader to discuss questions regarding the cessation of the war and the restoration of peace."

"In the event of the achievement of a political settlement," M. Sharq said in conclusion, "it will be proved that it is possible to secure in practice the elimination of regional conflicts. This will be a demonstration of the triumph of the new political thinking based upon political realism and responsibility."

Afghan Envoy on Geneva Talks, Returnees

LD121543 Moscow World Service in English 1410 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Text] Statements by the President of Afghanistan, Dr Najibullah, and by the general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party, Mikhail Gorbachev, show the sincere interest of the two countries to have an early settlement of the situation involving Afghanistan. That point has been made at a news conference in Moscow by the Afghan ambassador to the USSR, Mohammadollah Safi.

There are great hopes and opportunities now for the next round of the Geneva talks, starting soon, on the settlement of the foreign aspect of the problem, to become fruitful and to result in speedy signing of accords, said the Afghan ambassador. But inside the country, he added, due to action on the policy of national reconciliation, the situation is getting normalized by and by. One hundred and ten thousand Afghan refugees have returned home from Iran, Pakistan, and western countries. Forty thousand rebels within the armed units of the opposition and over 160,000 members of their families have joined the policy of national reconciliation. Thousands of opponents of the government have joined national commissions for reconciliation. Four hundred of them are working in executive committees of various levels.

The Afghan ambassador also made a reminder that a new constitution was adopted and a law on political parties was passed. Besides the People's Democratic Policy of Afghanistan, there operate in the country the People's Islamic Party of Afghanistan, the party of Peasants' Justice of Afghanistan, and several other parties. This is a reality of the policy of national reconciliation and accord. The issue of the Soviet troops' pullout is not related in any way to the creation of a new

coalition government, noted the ambassador. The question of our country's future, of setting up a coalition government, is a purely internal matter. The Afghans themselves will solve it, said Mohammadollah Safi.

U.S., Rebel Reaction to Afghan Moves Evaluated
LD111532 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0435 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Vladimir Fadeyev talk]

[Text] The word Afghanistan has not left the pages of newspapers for several years now, and it keeps turning up in the headlines of radio broadcasts and is heard in television programs. It is being pronounced by diplomats from the rostrum of the United Nations Organization.

Political and state officials from various countries turn their eyes to the events in Afghanistan itself and to the situation around it. The word Afghanistan reverberates in the pain of heavy losses in the heart of millions of Afghans whose native land is enveloped in the flames of a bloody and fratricidal war. With this word are also linked both the grief of fathers and mothers in many of our homes who have received sorrowful news from the battlefields of the undeclared war, as well as the impatience, anxiety, and hope with which thousands of Soviet people are now awaiting their husbands, sons, brothers, and friends from Afghanistan.

It appears that last Monday, the day that Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's statement on Afghanistan was heard on the radio, promises to be the happiest Monday for all those who are sincerely interested in the speediest possible untying of the Afghan knot—in other words, in the settlement of one of the gravest and most painful regional conflicts, as Comrade Gorbachev stressed.

Why do I have to make the reservation, promises to be, and why do I not claim this with confidence? Well, because as the entire history of this armed conflict shows, the demonstration of good will and the specific practical steps in the process of resolving the situation surrounding Afghanistan which were undertaken by the Afghan and Soviet sides unilaterally, have turned out to be insufficient for peace and tranquillity to reign on the Afghan land. And so even today, when a specific date has been fixed and announced for the commencement of the withdrawal of Soviet troops, 15 May this year, taking into account the fact that the signing of the agreement on the settlement between Afghanistan and Pakistan at the forthcoming Geneva talks will take place no later than 15 March, it is not possible to claim with confidence that someone is no longer able to block the settlement and cause a setback in the talks. By the way, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev pointed to this in his statement, too. Of course, we all want to hope and very much believe that this will not happen. But I repeat: There are still forces and governments in the world which are in every possible way opposing the settlement and which are nurturing plans to, as it were, preserve Afghanistan for the Afghans themselves [as heard] and as a kind of bleeding wound for the Soviet people, and to further prolong the existence of an explosive hotbed on the very doorstep of our home.

You know, comrades, that ideas of such sinister plans, deprived of common sense and, of course, of morality, filter through the official reaction given to the Soviet leader's statement by certain circles in the West. Yes, I would incidentally like to stress that most of the reaction has been positive. The press agencies' reports evaluate Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's statement as a truly enormous step on the path of settling the Afghan problem. The new Soviet initiative has naturally provided an impetus for observers from various newspapers, magazines, radio and television companies for all kinds of predictions about the future of Afghanistan, the character of its government, the fate of the refugees, etc.

But I would like to turn your attention first and foremost to the reaction which, as I already noted earlier, is contrary to common sense or which reveals poorly concealed disappointment. As soon as the world heard about the statement of the Soviet leader and was able to acquaint itself with its clauses, Redman, a representative of the U.S. State Department, said that the agreement on a peaceful settlement should not be signed until such time as the dushmans' interests are taken into account. According to a BBC report, the State Department representative made it clear that any achieved agreement had to be approved by the insurgents who are fighting against the Afghan regime. Having devoted an entire commentary to the allegedly contradictory evidence of Soviet intentions, this radio station stated that after Gorbachev's statement, the State Department experts are worried over the indications, as they see it, of the USSR's aspiration to consolidate its position in Afghanistan rather than to withdraw its troops.

And so what do you think, comrades, what kind of an argument is being cited in order to confirm such a hurriedly thought-out version? Answer: Our economic agreements with Afghanistan and our scientific and technical cooperation. At the same time, the BBC deliberately kept quiet about the fact that the first Soviet-Afghan treaty was concluded as early as 1921, precisely at the same time that the British warned the then Afghan Amir, Amanollah Khan, not to establish diplomatic relations with Moscow at any price. And this radio station kept silent even about subsequent Soviet-Afghan agreements whose validity had on more than one occasion been extended long before the abovementioned version was born in the minds of the State Department's employees and was picked up by the BBC.

The Western radio voices are now noticeably singling out the views of those representatives of the administration who call for rendering assistance to the dushmans until the time when the last Soviet soldier leaves Afghanistan.

It is natural that some leaders of dushman units and of the counterrevolutionary leaders, who have entrenched themselves in Peshawar and who are calculating on the support of their patrons, continue to claim that they do not intend to share power with the present Kabul government and are calling upon their supporters to wage war until the end, until the time when, as they say, an Islamic government comes into power in Kabul.

Incidentally, I would like to remind our radio listeners that the Afghan Government is very much aware that the peoples and the country in which the process of national reconciliation is under way cannot leave beyond its framework anybody to whom the interests and the fates of one's fatherland are dear. Precisely for this reason proposals were made in Kabul, on more than one occasion during the entire course of the last year, to the opposition leaders to start talks on setting up a coalition government. In other words, Kabul agreed to a sharing of power in the country, naturally on a sensible and patriotic basis. But all the same, these proposals did not meet with due understanding. True, the dushman leaders—or as they have of late been called, the leaders of the Union of Seven—do not as yet possess a sufficiently strong political coupling, or a common platform. The only thing they have in common is hatred of the fact that the April Revolution was proclaimed in the country and, naturally, of the program of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan. They are also united by anticommunism and anti-Sovietism. But their differences are much bigger. These are the struggle for spheres of influence in Afghanistan, for the division of loot and foreign aid, and the differences of view on the path of Afghan development. The supporters of so-called Islamic rule categorically oppose any kind of coalition with the PDPA's participation and support the reinstatement of former ways and traditions in the country. The question regarding the setting up of a future government must, of course, be solved by the Afghans themselves, and Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev stressed in the statement that the creation of such a government and the withdrawal of our forces are not mutually connected. However, we cannot but be worried about what, in the long term, the attitude to a settlement will be of those who are in the enemy camp and which way their patrons will push them.

Finally, have the U.S. side and other governments, which have for all these years been supporting the dushmans and which have been encouraging them toward the fratricidal war, the ability to influence their choice of an altogether opposing position. That means to cease armed struggle and to adopt a whole number of proposals from the present government.

Judging from everything, a new round of the talks between the Afghan and the Pakistani sides will open in Geneva on 2 March. Diego Cordovez, personal representative of the UN secretary general, who worked on the preparation of this round, only recently gave a very high appraisal of the role of the Soviet leader in the cause of the quest for ways to resolve the Afghan problem. One would like to believe that the two sides will display a mutual political will for peace in this region. After all, the remedy for the pains and problems of one side have never been the remedy for the other side.

Both Pakistan and Afghanistan now have a very advantageous, and, I believe, an equal chance to display new thinking in politics, and to leave for history an appreciable and instructive mark, on whose example other shoots of the new philosophy—the philosophy of peace which mankind needs—can grow.

Not just by accident did Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev pose a question at the end of the statement. What conflict will be overcome next?

Afghan Official Cites Support for Policy

LD111948 Moscow TASS in English 1837 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Geneva February 11 TASS—The national reconciliation policy proclaimed by the Afghan leadership, enjoys broad support of the Afghan population. This was stated here at a press conference by Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Extraordinary Commission for National Reconciliation in Afghanistan 'Abdurrahim Hatef. Owing to the national reconciliation policy, he said, hundreds of thousands Afghans returned home from abroad.

'Abdurrahim Hatef welcomed Mikhail Gorbachev's statement on Afghanistan which proposes realistic steps to be taken with a view of successful completion of the Geneva negotiations on settlement of the Afghanistan situation.

Pakistan to Receive More U.S. F-16's

LD111623 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Commentary by (Aleksandr Malikov)]

[Text] The paper DAWN, which is published in Karachi, Pakistan, reports that during the next 5 years Pakistan will receive approximately another 100 F-16 fighter-bombers [number as heard]. This type of plane will be supplied under a military and economic deal concluded between Islamabad and Washington amounting to $4.2 billion. Commentator (Aleksandr Malikov) is at the microphone:

[(Malikov)] They say that statistics are frightening, but one can hardly treat these figures calmly. Within 5 years Pakistan will add another 100 F-16 planes to the 40 it already has. The point here is not so much the combat characteristics of this aircraft, even though the presence in Pakistan of planes capable of inflicting strikes, and, what is more, nuclear strikes, over the territory of virtually all neighboring countries is in itself difficult to absorb without some degree of alarm. In this case, different circumstances are giving rise to concern.

The report that has come from Pakistan has struck a dissonant note against the efforts by the Soviet Union and other states directed at establishing peace in Afghanistan. Wouldn't you agree that patently illogical things are occurring? Pakistan intends to acquire a new large consignment of planes, allegedly for defense against the Afghan threat, as they say there, at a time when the Afghan question is open for settlement. And why, one wonders, does Pakistan need twice as many fighter-bombers if the date for a possible Soviet troops withdrawal from Afghanistan has been named. The inertia of out-dated thinking, the thinking of the past, when the forces of diplomacy were measured in terms of the caliber of guns, is evidently still great at the regional level, too.

The case in point here involves planes which allow Pakistan, as I noted, to reach neighboring states. But it is obvious that their power does not promote a solution to the accumulated problems of the neighbors. It only carries fear and suspicion, and thus is leading away from achieving security and establishing good neighborly relations. It is easy to illustrate the fairness of this judgement. For instance, on India's northern border, Pakistan recently tested new U.S.-made artillery weapons. A very alarming situation resulted.

Another aspect of supplying U.S. F-16 planes to Pakistan also gives rise to well-founded alarm. The point is that the United States views the supply of its armaments as a key foreign policy matter. Evidently Joseph Gaven, president of the (Grumman) Corporation who once noted in an interview that a combat plane is not simply a flying machine but something much more, was right.

DFLP's Hawatimah Interviewed on 'Uprising'

Role of PLO

PM121057 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Feb 88 Morning Edition p 5

[M. Kozhevnikov interview with Nayif Hawatimah, general secretary of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, under the heading "The Uprising Is Gathering Momentum"; first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] Our correspondent had a meeting in Moscow with the eminent Palestinian leader Nayif Hawatimah, general secretary of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), and asked him to talk about the events taking place in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories.

[Kozhevnikov] There has been no letup for 2 months in the Arab-Palestinian uprising on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip. What is the situation there at present?

[Hawatimah] I will begin with what I consider to be the most important aspect. The extensive uprising in the Israeli-occupied Arab lands is a logical consequence of the struggle which the Arab Palestinian people have been waging against Zionist occupation for the last 20 years. It would be a grave error to ignore it.

Virtually every population center on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip and the Arab quarter of Jerusalem is now caught up in the Palestinian action. All Arab inhabitants, young and old, are involved in stormy meetings, demonstrations, and strikes. Two million people have taken to the streets. Arabs living in Israel itself have expressed their solidarity with their brothers and sisters in the occupied territories, which has come as a surprise to Tel Aviv.

Frightened by the scale of the uprising, the invaders have resorted to "iron fist" tactics, as they have more than once in the past. The reprisals against demonstrators, mass arrests, and deportations continue. Even now, however, I can confidently say that the occupation authorities' hopes of rapidly suppressing the demonstrations have failed completely. Events confirm that the uprising is gathering momentum.

[Kozhevnikov] The Western mass media are trying to portray the Palestinian action in the occupied lands as "spontaneous." Is this true?

[Hawatimah] It is indeed true that from the very outset Western propaganda has tried to distort the nature of the events, describing the uprising as nothing more than "a spontaneous outburst of despair." There have also been reports that "Islamic fundamentalism" is allegedly the main motive force behind the Arab-Palestinian action.

The aim of all these allegations is clear—to discredit the PLO as allegedly "not enjoying authority and influence among the population of the occupied territories" and instill mistrust of this organization. To our deep regret, some Arabs have fallen into this propaganda trap.

However, life itself has refuted these claims. It is quite clear that the uprising could not continue to develop for such a long period of time if it did not have an organizer and an inspirational force. This role is played by the PLO, which is recognized by all Palestinians, including those living in the occupied territories, as their sole legitimate representative. Throughout this time the PLO has led the uprising, and the organizations incorporated in it—Fatah, the DFLP, and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP)—have taken every opportunity to support those involved.

As far as the so-called "Islamic fundamentalists" are concerned, their role in the current events is very insignificant. I can tell you, for example, that supporters of the "Islamic Jihad" organization are involved in the anti-Israeli demonstrations in the Gaza Strip under the national banners of the PLO and the Fatah.

[Kozhevnikov] What are the demands being made by the participants in the uprising and what is their main aim?

[Hawatimah] The Arab Palestinians living on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip do not want to be resigned to the occupying forces' tyranny any longer. The insurgents are demanding the immediate abolition of the draconian laws on the state of emergency; they are demanding that the siege of Arab population centers and refugee camps be lifted; and they are protesting against the Zionist annexation of land belonging to the Palestinians and the formation of new paramilitary settlements on this land. These and other demands are displayed on the banners of the daily mass demonstrations.

But the main aim of the uprising is to end the occupation of Arab territories and effect the withdrawal of all Israeli troops from these territories. This very important political task was formulated in the national program of action approved by the PLO at its Algiers meeting. We are well aware that it will not be easy. It will take time. However, the current events, which reflect the determination of the popular masses who have risen to fight, fill us with optimism. We also very much hope that an international conference on the Near East will eventually be convened, because we regard this as the only means of reaching a fair solution to the Palestinian problem and ensuring peace in the region.

Soviet Mideast Moves Assessed

LD111541 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1020 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Excerpts] Moscow, 11 Feb (KUNA)—Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the liberation of Palestine (DFLP), has stated that "the Soviet Government is about to take a political stand regarding the Palestinian uprising. This will not only be the opinion of Soviet social institutions."

Hawatimah said in an exclusive interview with KUNA that during the next few days, Moscow will witness intense activity centered on the Palestinian popular uprising in the occupied Arab territories, aimed at setting up an international peace conference with the participation of the PLO as an independent delegation. He referred in this respect to the visits of British Foreign Minister Geoffrey Howe and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz to Moscow in the near future.

He added: "Between the visits, a series of Soviet moves towards the Middle East, Western Europe, and the United States is in the offing," indicating that these moves had in fact started with a message from the Soviet Government to the EEC foreign ministers meeting in Bonn aimed at promoting a West European stand toward the right of the Palestinian people and toward Arab rights, at securing the adoption of a collective stand which supports the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, and at speeding up the convocation of a fully mandated international conference with a view to finding collective solutions and guarantees for the Palestinian people and the other Arab peoples.

Nayif Hawatimah thinks that the early Soviet announcement of the Soviet Union's intention to withdraw its forces from Afghanistan over 10 months as of next March, should agreements be signed between Pakistan and Afghanistan and after assurances are given by both the Soviet Union and the United States to end the operations of interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs in return for a scheduled withdrawal of the Soviet forces, "serves to a certain extent the uprising taking place on the Palestinian land and helps focus attention upon the Middle East crisis, so that efforts are no longer dissipated over many tense regional problems."

The Palestinian official went on to say that his talks with the Soviet leaders were aimed at reinforcing and developing forms of Soviet support for the uprising in order to achieve tangible results in the field, indicating that "we should not allow the Israeli policy of the iron fist and the breaking of limbs, nor the U.S. maneuvers brought to the Middle East by Philip Habib, Richard Murphy, and Michael Armacost, to succeed in breaking the uprising."

Hawatimah stressed that high level talks were held, which indicates that the Soviet Union will not leave the uprising without various forms of material and political support and mobilization (of public opinion).

The Palestinian official said that the uprising and its dimensions were discussed with Soviet officials and that consolidating the Soviet stand had become a practical necessity, and, foremost, turning Shevardnadze's message into a practical issue by giving it foundation and not just relying upon the efforts of the UN Secretary General.

Hawatimah also revealed that "the Soviet side has clearly informed us of its absolute rejection of the new U.S. ideas concerning the Middle East and that it views them as the Camp David (accords) with new colors. The Soviet side also stressed Moscow's rejection of the U.S. plans for self-rule and autonomy brought by Washington's envoys to the Middle East. Moscow also rejected the plans for a regional conference which Washington is trying to hold with the participation of Israel, Jordan and Egypt under the chairmanship of the United States and with the participation of Palestinian elements, not the PLO, in order to draw up the transition formula for the second phase which covers the issue of autonomy on the occupied Palestinian territories."

The Palestinian official added that the transition formula would be autonomy rule for the population with the participation of Israel and Jordan.

Hawatimah went on to say that "this process is rejected, in general and in its specifics, by the Soviets because it constitutes an operation aimed at encircling the uprising in order to break it and prevent it from realizing its goals, which are to make the occupants leave the Palestinian towns, villages, and camps and obtain the implementation of the Fourth Geneva Treaty under UN auspices as

a prelude to guaranteeing the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination within the framework of international collective guarantees, which only a fully mandated international conference can give." [passage omitted] On the means of taking the uprising to a developed stage, Hawatimah said: The development is taking place step by step and gathering momentum. [passage omitted]

Hawatimah described the normalization of relations between the PLO and Syria and the establishment of strong relations between them as "the best present which Syria, the PLO, and all the Arab states can give to the uprising inside the territories because this will enable us to open up a second front against the Israeli occupation forces in south Lebanon, and consequently its forces will be scattered on two fronts, internally and in the south [as received], and this will secure the expulsion of the Israeli enemy by armed force from southern Lebanon without restrictions or conditions."

Hawatimah concluded his statement by affirming the need for the Arab foreign ministers to put their resolutions into practice and move from words to deeds because there are 2 million human beings in the streets who are in need of daily bread to continue to stand on their feet in fighting against occupation.

Israel Said to Threaten Palestinian Ship

LD111456 Moscow TASS in English 1412 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Athens February 11 TASS—A difficult and tense situation has taken shape around the peace ship, which was to take on board the Palestinians deported by Israel from the occupied Arab lands. According to the plan, the ship was to take to sea from the port of Piraeus and to take course for the Israeli port of Haifa on Wednesday yet then the cruise was all of a sudden put off. As newsmen were told here by representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organization, Israel launched a real secret war to prevent the dispatch of the peace ship. First the Israeli authorities demanded that Greece ban the departure of the ship from Piraeus, yet the Greek Government refused to do so. Then use was made of blackmail and threats. According to PLO representative Bassam Abu Sharif. The Israelis were trying to intimidate the captain of the ship threatening to kill his children. In this situation the sponsors of the cruise, which pursues solely peaceful aims, were forced to resort to safety measures. The time of departure of the ship is kept secret. It is unknown until now what is her name and where precisely it stayed there.

According to the newspaper RIZOSPASTIS, not only Israel but also the USA is bringing pressure to bear on Greece trying to prevent the ship from going to sea.

Jordan's King Husayn Favors Peace Conference

LD111621 Moscow TASS in English 1614 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Vienna February 11 TASS—The Arab-Israeli conflict can only be settled by an international peace conference on the Middle East with the participation of all sides concerned, King Husayn of Jordan, who is on an official visit here, said in a statement after meeting with Austrian President Kurt Waldheim.

He stressed that the view was shared by the leaders of other Arab countries as well.

Husayn said the eight-year-old Iran-Iraq war had led to enormous human and material losses and represented a "constant threat to stability and security" in the region.

Iranian Gunboats Attack Tankers in Gulf

Liberian-Registered Tanker Attacked

LD071321 Moscow TASS in English 1226 GMT 7 Feb 88

[Text] London February 7 TASS—A Liberian-registered tanker was attacked in the Persian Gulf this morning.

The Reuter news agency reports that Iranian gunboats made the attack on the 64,140-ton tanker Diane, chartered by the North American Ship Agencies, off the coast of the United Arab Emirates.

As a result of the attacks, the tanker's engine-room and living quarters were damaged. A fire that blazed out on board the tanker was extinguished by the crew. The Diane continues on its way.

Norwegian Tanker Struck

LD110704 Moscow TASS in English 0653 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] London February 11 TASS—The 300,000-tonne Norwegian supertanker "Happy Kari" was pounded today in the southern part of the Persian Gulf. The attack left the tanker ablaze, REUTER reports. The "Happy Kari" loaded with oil was attacked by Iranian gunboats 20 miles off Dubay port, the United Arab Emirates.

Sub-Saharan Africa

OAU Committee Meets on Chad-Libya Dispute

LD112234 Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Reports from Libreville, the capital of Gabon, say it was the site of the meeting of a special committee set up by a decision of the OAU for a political settlement of the Chadian-Libyan border conflict. The meeting was attended by high ranking representatives of six member

countries of the committee—Gabon, Algiers [as heard], Cameroon, Nigeria, Senegal, and Mozambique. The general secretary of the OAU also took part in the meeting.

The meeting discussed the results of the work carried out by a commission of experts, lawyers, and cartographers that examined a vast amount of documents and materials since April of 1987 pertaining to the ownership of the Aozou strip, that gave rise to the contradictions between Libya and Chad.

The foreign ministers of Libya and Chad voiced their full trust in the work of the commission. The meeting stressed that a peaceful political settlement of the problem can and must be reached at African level. In other words, the representatives empowered by the OAU have once again rejected the attempts made by the United States and France to interfere in the dispute. The main result of the committee's work was the development of a report outlining a plan for the solution of the dispute. Its contents have as yet not been published. The final recommendations on this issue are to be given by the heads of the six member countries of the committee in April this year in the capital of Senegal.

At present Libya and Chad are observing the cease-fire agreement that came into force on the 11th September last year.

Mali President on 'Unofficial' Moscow Visit

Received by Demichev

LD112232 Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Alternate Member of the Politburo of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee, First Deputy Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Petr Demichev, has given a luncheon in honour of the general secretary of the Democratic Union of the Mali People, President Moussa Traore, who is in the Soviet Union on an unofficial visit.

Petr Demichev noted the importance of the two countries' broad cooperation on the international scene to bring about a fair, nonviolent and nuclear-free world and to promote political settlements in various parts of the globe. Particular attention was paid to the Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's statement on Afghanistan, which has given a very good chance to achieve a peaceful settlement in that country.

President Traore spoke highly of the USSR's peace initiatives and its efforts to implement the program for nuclear disarmament which would open up favorable opportunities for a peaceful and independent development of all nations.

Both sides said they were satisfied with the fruitful development of cooperation between their countries in politics, the economy, culture and other fields.

Departs After Visit

LD120743 Moscow TASS in English 0721 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow February 12 TASS—Moussa Traore, general secretary of the Democratic Union of the Mali people and president of the Republic of Mali, who paid an unofficial visit to the Soviet Union left Moscow today.

At the airport he was seen off by Tengiz Menteshashvili, secretary of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and other officials.

Briefs

Cooperation Accord With Nigeria

The Soviet Union and Nigeria have signed another 2-year program for cooperation in culture and education. The agreement was signed in Moscow by the USSR's deputy foreign minister, Anatoliy Adamishin, and Nigeria's ambassador to the Soviet Union, Isa Modibbo. The program provides for broader cultural exchanges and Soviet assistance to Nigeria in training national personnel and cooperation in the health services, television, radio, film making and sports. [Text] [*Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 11 Feb 88 LD*]

East Europe

Orzechowski Interviewed on Gorbachev Meeting

LD102013 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1830 GMT 10 Feb 88

[Text] [Unidentified correspondent] Right after his meeting, I asked Minister Marian Orzechowski for his thoughts on the meeting with Mikhail Gorbachev, which had just concluded.

[Begin Orzechowski recording] Mr Editor, these reflections still have to be sorted out; they are fresh in my mind; I have fresh memories, fresh impressions after those talks. Above all, I would like to emphasize that it was a conversation about the most important issues between us and the Soviet Union: about our mutual relations, international issues, our cooperation, and the challenges and tasks which await us.

But I would like to say something else: This meeting, these talks which took place in an exceptionally warm, sincere, open, friendly atmosphere, stress, so to speak, and underline the status of Polish-Soviet relations, the importance which the leadership of the Soviet Union accords to those relations. After all, a meeting, being received by the CPSU Central Committee general secretary, has its significance. I would like to stress one more

thing: Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev personally attaches immense importance to the development of our mutual relations. I was amazed at his knowledge of the Polish events, and not only current situation, but his knowledge of what has happened in Poland, about what happened recently and about what is happening; and by his view of our experiences, of what is happening in our country as a source of experiences for the Soviet Union too, for the CPSU, for perestroyka.

It emerges unambiguously from this talk that it is the aim, the will of the Soviet leadership and Comrade Gorbachev personally, that the declaration signed on 21 April 1987—the declaration on cooperation in the sphere of the superstructure—that this declaration should be filled with a specific content, so that it will not remain just a declaration, but will define the character, climate, and quality of our relations. The declaration should be filled, above all, with the content that is most important, so that relations with the Soviet Union and cooperation and friendship will become the cause of millions of people, millions of Poles, millions of citizens of the Soviet Union. [end recording]

Bloc Spokesmen on Gorbachev's Afghan Statement

GDR 'Welcomes' Statement

LD112131 Moscow TASS in English 2058 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Berlin February 11 (TASS)—The German Democratic Republic welcomes the accord reached between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan that if the indirect Afghan-Pakistani negotiations successfully end in Geneva, the pull-out of Soviet troops will begin on May 15 to be completed within 10 months. This was stated here today by Wolfgang Meyer, head of the Press and Information Department of the GDR Foreign Ministry.

Along with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, he said, the GDR has always advocated settlement of conflicts through a peaceful and constructive dialogue, with due account for the interests of all sides. Therefore the German socialist state expresses satisfaction with the fact that the process of national reconciliation, creates favourable prerequisites for putting an end to the conflict which brings huge sufferings to the Afghan people.

CSSR: Step Toward Settlement

LD111956 Moscow TASS in English 1922 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Prague February 11 TASS—A statement of general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev on Afghanistan is an important step toward a constructive settlement of the conflict around and within Afghanistan, spokesman for the foreign ministry of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic Duszan Rowenskie said here today.

The Soviet initiative is a manifestation of new political thinking in international affairs. It promotes the further process of the implementation of the policy of national reconciliation conducted by the leaders of the Republic of Afghanistan. Czechoslovakia fully supports the constructive initiatives contained in the statement of the Soviet leader. It views them as a fundamental and decisive step toward a comprehensive settlement of the afghan conflict, said the spokesman for the Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry.

Jakes National Front Speech 'Hails' INF Treaty

LD111834 Moscow TASS in English 1809 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Prague February 11 TASS—Milos Jakes, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and chairman of the Central Committee of the National Front of Czechoslovakia, has hailed the Soviet-U.S. INF Treaty and the statement by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on Afghanistan.

Speaking at a conference of the National Front, he said they are very important to easing international tension and enhancing peace and manifest new thinking in international relations.

Solovyev Meets Hungarian Consul in Leningrad

PM121025 Leningrad LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 26 Jan 88 p 1

[LENTASS report: "Visit from Hungarian Consul General"]

[Text] Yu.F. Solovyev, CPSU Central Committee Politburo candidate member and Leningrad Party Obkom first secretary, yesterday received a visit from Pal Stanko, Hungarian consul general in Leningrad, in connection with his departure for home.

During the conversation it was noted with satisfaction that Soviet-Hungarian cooperation is developing successfully in various spheres and that Leningraders have been helping to strengthen that cooperation. Mutually beneficial economic ties are of fundamental significance in deepening those relations.

Yu.F. Solovyev described how working people in the city and oblast are resolving economic and social development tasks and implementing restructuring in conditions of glasnost and the democratization of social life. The second stage of restructuring has now begun during which it will be necessary to carry out a radical economic reform and deepen the processes of democratization. Party organizations and labor collectives are making maximum effort to accelerate restructuring and resolve the tasks of the 5-year plan period.

M.A. Yefimov, representative of the USSR Foreign Ministry in Leningrad, was present during the conversation.

Soviet-Romanian Treaty Anniversary Assessed

Kamentsev: Lasting Foundation

AU111047 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 4 Feb 88 p 5

[Article by V. M. Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, entitled "Relations Confirmed by Time"]

[Text] Today we mark 40 years since the signing in Moscow of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance Between the Soviet Union and Romania. This document has played an important part in developing close relations of equal rights between the two countries in all spheres of social activity. The treaty has laid a lasting foundation for our bilateral political, economic, and cultural cooperation and has established the directions of its development on the basis of the principles of mutual respect, independence, sovereignty, and noninterference in domestic affairs. These principles were brilliantly confirmed and further developed in the Treaty Between the USSR and the SR of Romania signed in Bucharest in 1970.

The 1948 treaty with the Soviet Union strengthened the international position of the young and not yet fully consolidated People's Republic and aided it in solving socioeconomic problems.

Relations between the Soviet Union and Romania are already full of rich traditions as partners in the political, economic, and scientific-technological spheres. Contacts between state and public organizations continue to expand in the fields of culture, art, and education.

The decisive role in developing the comprehensive Soviet-Romanian relations is played by the ties between our parties. Throughout the entire 40-year period, the understandings reached by the leaders of the CPSU and RCP have given an important impetus to finding ways and means to expand and deepen Soviet-Romanian cooperation. The May 1987 official friendship visit to Bucharest by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, and his talks with Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP secretary general and president of the SR of Romania reiterated the mutual desire of both sides to unswervingly expand relations between the CPSU and the RCP, and between the USSR and Romania, and promote active cooperation on the international plane in the struggle to enhance peace. The sides voiced their desire to improve their cooperation mechanism, increase the interest in their mutual experience, and expand ideological and cultural exchanges.

The most important tasks were laid down for the field of economic and scientific-technological cooperation. Annual goods exchanges between the USSR and Romania are currently running at around 5 billion rubles, which means they they have increased 26-fold compared with their volume in the early fifties. During the current 5-year plan alone, the volume of the USSR's trade with Romania will increase 1.7-fold, much more than with any other country. The reason for this is the introduction of new varieties of highly important economic goods in our mutual exchanges and the further development of our cooperation which covers the most diverse economic sectors of our countries.

Soviet deliveries of machines, equipment, and raw materials, as well as the Soviet technological assistance to Romania, have constantly facilitated the progress of the most important branches of the Romanian economy. Soviet economic organizations have delivered to Romanian partners about 2,000 sets of technological blueprints that were used in the tractor, automobile, bearings, and other industrial branches, and in improving shipbuilding and various electrical-engineering products. More than 140 energy, metallurgical, chemical, pulp and paper, and other industrial units were built in Romania with Soviet assistance; among them is the most representative unit of the Romanian energy sector, the Iron Gates hydropower station, as well as the Galati Metallurgical Combine, the Borzesti Petrochemical Combine, and many other very large enterprises.

The economic progress registered by the SR of Romania allows the Soviet Union to profit from Romanian achievements. Romania delivered 700 sets of technological blueprints to the USSR. Imports of machinery from Romania are expanding; the volume is currently three times higher than the Soviet deliveries of this category of products. A total of 40 percent of the overall oil equipment, more than 60 percent of electricity transformers, and about 20 percent of the rolling stock imported by the USSR comes from the SR of Romania.

The overall exchange of products of the machine building industry is growing at a very lively pace. The proportion of machinery in the Soviet-Romanian commodity exchanges is increasing further, and it now stands at more than 30 percent. The Soviet Union is traditionally the largest supplier of various categories of equipment, lathes, mining machinery, electronic parts, and aviation technology to Romania.

Soviet deliveries of raw materials and energy are acquiring an increasingly more topical significance for the Romanian economy. On this basis, Romania can fully meet its import requirements for natural gas and a sizable part of its oil, iron, cotton, and coal imports. The expansion of deliveries of raw materials facilitates the participation of Romanian economic organizations in building, on Soviet territory, various units in the fields of raw materials and fuel. As a result of this participation,

Romania already receives from the Soviet Union natural gas, electric power, raw materials with an iron content, ferro-alloys, asbestos, and pulp.

The Soviet Union and Romania have gained significant experience in production sharing. An important role in this respect was played by the long-term program on production specialization and sharing between the two countries, signed in 1980. This document has paved the way for organizing cooperation ventures in the production of new kinds of machines and related items, increasing the technological level of production, reducing the duplication of products, and introducing advanced technological processes. By now, deliveries in accordance with existing agreements on production specialization and sharing have exceeded half of the volume of the Romanian exports, and amount to about a quarter of the Soviet export of products of the machine building industry. The development of the exchange of specialized products of the chemical, petrochemical, paper, and pulp industries is in full swing.

A new impetus for the development of Soviet-Romanian relations was given by the signing—in May 1986, at the highest level—of the long-term program of economic and scientific-technological cooperation between the USSR and the SR of Romania up to the year 2000, which aims at jointly solving the great problems of the economic development of our countries. Greater efforts are now being made to give a concrete content to this basic document. Thus, a number of subprograms were prepared for the development of cooperation in each branch, as well as various agreements on production specialization and sharing. Their aim is to increasingly satisfy the needs of the two countries for equipment required by the processing of useful minerals and by metallurgy, chemistry, and rail transportation. These agreements provide for expanding cooperation in machine building, energy, oil, electrical engineering, the construction of machine-tools, electronics, and the making of devices and instruments. From Romania, the Soviet oil workers will receive new installations for deep drilling, modern prevention technologies, cement aggregates, and other equipment, including machines capable of operating at low temperatures. Important cooperation ventures are envisaged in the automobile industry, the production of tractors and agricultural machines, road construction technology, naval construction, and the aviation industry.

The two sides are cooperating in building and supplying various projects on Soviet territory, to meet the requirements of both countries for several categories of raw and other materials, and in building and modernizing certain units in Romania. Many ventures are envisaged for the fields of consumer goods, agriculture, forestry, fishing, transportation, communications, tourism, and environmental protection.

Of course, the most important task is to improve the mechanism of economic relations itself. To accelerate the development pace of cooperation in accordance with summit agreements, one should perfect new and most efficient forms of cooperation and proceed to developing preponderantly economic ties and profound production sharing and scientific-technological cooperation. At the 43d extraordinary session of CEMA, the participants unanimously acknowledged the need to improve the mechanism of socialist cooperation and economic integration.

Direct production and scientific-technical links between central departments, enterprises, and organizations of the fraternal countries represent one of the most important means for stable and efficient cooperation, for the exchange of advanced experience, for mutual assistance, and for mastering and introducing the latest technological achievements. In Soviet-Romanian relations so far, the development of new forms of cooperation only applies to scientific-technological ties. The cooperating organizations of CEMA member countries have generally moved from the exchange of research results, blueprints, and varieties of items—where one could often ascertain a certain duplication of activity—to a profound coordination of their work, on the basis of detailed cooperation plans. Attention was focused on setting up joint collectives and enterprises in the near future. An example in this respect is the joint enterprise for computers, which will be set up by the Bucharest Institute of Computer Technology and Data Processing, with the participation of the "Algoritm" [spelling as published] Scientific-Production Central Department from Moscow.

As far as new forms of production sharing between enterprises in our countries are concerned, they are still at the drafting stage. A number of understandings were reached on establishing direct contract links between Soviet and Romanian plants in the sphere of heavy equipment, lathes, various devices for the fuel industry, and other items. We are now examining the possibility of building joint enterprises in Romania for the production of radial tires for trucks.

Kindred through their class nature, as well as being allies and militants for common goals, the Soviet Union and Romania speak out internationally in favor of the democratic and progressive forces. Together with other socialist countries, they are increasing their efforts to build a world without nuclear weapons, eliminate the danger of war, and establish equitable relations among states.

Time has shown that the obligations assumed by the Soviet Union and Romania through their Friendship Treaty represent a reliable foundation for comprehensive cooperation between our country and a guarantee for their success in socialist construction and in the world arena.

'Tradition of Solidarity'

PM101325 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Feb 88 Second Edition p 4

[Article by Stefan Andrei, Deputy Prime Minister of Romania: "A Firm Course"]

[Text] February 4 has always been marked as an event of primary importance in the chronicle of Romanian-Soviet ties. The first Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between Romania and the Soviet Union—a document of truly historic scale in the formation and evolution of relations between our two countries—was signed on this day 40 years ago. The new Romanian-Soviet treaty signed 22 years later in July 1970 lifted to a higher degree the close cooperation between our countries' parties, states, and peoples in the political, economic, scientific and technical, and cultural spheres based firmly on respect for sovereignty, national independence, equal rights, mutual advantage, and noninterference in internal affairs.

Romanian-Soviet relations are profoundly rooted in the tradition of solidarity between the working class and revolutionary movement in both countries and in the struggle to build socialism and communism.

The undeviating development of friendship and comprehensive cooperation with the Soviet Union is a firm course which is organically enshrined in the foreign policy of our party and state. This policy centers on strengthening and expanding relations of friendship and cooperation with all socialist countries, primarily with our neighbors. Visits, talks, and summit accords, which give a powerful new fillip to cooperation and collaboration in the sphere of politics, the economy, science and technology, and culture and in other spheres of activity on every occasion, play an exceptionally important role in developing Romanian-Soviet relations. The official friendly visit to Bucharest in May 1987 by M.S. Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, and his talks with Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP Central Committee general secretary, were a graphic reflection of the stability of the ties between our parties, countries, and peoples. This event opened up new prospects for mutually advantageous cooperation between our two countries.

The assessments of these relations given by both leaders in their speeches are full of profound good sense. "We value the high level of our relations," Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu said, "which are based on complete equality, mutual respect, and the noble principles and ideals of socialism, and we want them to develop uninterruptedly and be affirmed increasingly vigorously as an example of relations between socialist states which actively cooperate and collaborate to succeed in constructing a new system in their countries and for the overall cause of socialism and peace." M.S. Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, pointed out in turn: "We see socialist Romania as a state related to the Soviet Union by its class nature, as one of our allies and comrades in arms in the common cause. We are also full of determination to do everything to ensure that our cooperation in all spheres of social life becomes even stronger and more fruitful."

In celebrating today's anniversary we are pleased to say that Soviet-Romanian relations, as embodied in the ideas of the treaty and the decisions adopted at summit level, are constantly developing in an upward direction. The measures elaborated within the framework of the Bucharest talks on the deepening of production sharing and specialization, especially in key industrial sectors—with a view to meeting both our own requirements and also those of third countries' markets—are assuming exceptional importance. It was in this sense that emphasis was placed on the implementation of the Long-Term Program for the Development of Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation Between Romania and the Soviet Union for the Period Through the Year 2000, whose projections and targets ensure the expansion and improvement of collaboration in these spheres in accordance with the growing economic potential of each of our countries. The mutual desire to boost the role of cooperation in providing resources which both our countries' economies need, especially raw materials, fuel, power, modern equipment and machinery, consumer goods, and food products, was stressed at the same time.

In almost 45 years since the revolution of national and social liberation and the victory in the antifascist, anti-imperialist struggle the Romanian people have notched historic achievements in the matter of carrying out revolutionary transformations in the life of society. From being an underdeveloped country Romania has become an agro-industrial state, with a powerful modern industry organized on the basis of the latest achievements of science and technology and with a dynamically developing socialist agriculture, where science, education, and culture have flourished and the people's material and spiritual prosperity has risen.

At present the Romanian people are devoting their efforts to fulfilling the 13th RCP Congress decisions and implementing the program for building a comprehensively developed socialist society. In this context cooperation with socialist countries, above all the Soviet Union, our major partner in the sphere of foreign policy ties, continues to play an important role. In the 1986-1990 period reciprocal commodity turnover between our country and the country of the Soviets will increase by approximately 70 percent in comparison with the previous 5-year plan.

Romania's involvement in a large number of multilateral agreements elaborated in CEMA and bilateral agreements concluded on the basis of them with the Soviet Union—on economic cooperation and production specialization—are a concrete expression of the interest, enterprise, and endeavors of the Romanian side, which wants to constantly step up cooperation with the USSR. Thus, some of them concern economic facilities created on Soviet territory during previous 5-year plans: for instance, the Ust-Ilimsk Pulp Plant, the Kiyembayev Asbestos Combine, various ferroalloy production units, and the construction of auxiliary facilities for the gas condensate field in Orenburg. Or facilities currently

under construction: the South Ukraine AES, the construction of gas extraction facilities in Sovetabad, and the construction of the Krivoy Rog Mining and Enriching Combine, from which Romania receives or will receive a corresponding proportion of the output.

In turn, cooperation in the sphere of science and technology is continuing to develop successfully and consistently. The sides are showing constant concern to invest this process with as much concrete substance as possible and on this basis boost the efficiency of joint cooperation programs in accordance with both countries' potential and interests.

Both in bilateral and multilateral ties with socialist states Romania favors increasing involvement in assimilating the power and raw material resources which CEMA countries, primarily the Soviet Union, have at their disposal. We believe the need has arisen to conclude long-term cooperation agreements in the sphere of fuel and power and also in the sphere of raw materials, which would provide for pooling the efforts of the interested countries with a view to drawing new natural resources into economic circulation to satisfy more thoroughly and reliably the CEMA members' requirements. This course also conforms with the accord secured at the 1984 CEMA Economic Summit Conference according to which this problem will be resolved by all countries involved in CEMA by mobilizing each partner's own efforts and developing mutual cooperation.

Romania believes that great importance must be attached to substantially expanding specialization and cooperation in the production of equipment for power generation, mining production, metallurgy, chemicals and petrochemicals and equipment for exploiting minerals using the open-cut method and constructing main gas pipelines, so that all requirements for such output can be met by reciprocal deliveries. Romania has modern facilities at its disposal which, in cooperation with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, can produce this kind of equipment to a high technical standard. Our country is speaking and acting to intensify production cooperation and specialization and thus expand reciprocal commodity exchange to meet requirements for output in short supply increasingly fully and reduce costly imports from capitalist countries.

At the same time Romania has adopted the requisite measures so that it can take part, on the basis of the Comprehensive Program for CEMA Countries' Scientific and Technical Progress Through the Year 2000 and through cooperation above all with the Soviet Union, in implementing plans to create the most modern equipment and technologies in current priority sectors of scientific development like, for instance, the study of promising new energy sources, the creation of new materials and technologies for their production, the comprehensive automation and electronization of production processes with a view to optimizing them and reducing energy expenditure and the consumption of fuel and materials, and the rapid introduction of biotechnology in industry, agriculture, and public health. We have sufficient scientific and technological research potential to do this, created in close coordination with programs and plans for the republic's socioeconomic development.

The party and state leadership of socialist Romania has attached and will attach exceptional importance to improving economic and scientific-technical cooperation between our countries and improving the activity of CEMA. The ideas expressed by the RCP leadership at a working meeting of the leaders of the CEMA members' fraternal parties held in Moscow November 1986 were formulated in this vein. This viewpoint, together with the ideas of other countries' representatives, was reflected in the decisions of the October 1987 43d (extraordinary) CEMA session sitting. As was in fact stressed at that session, the Romanian side believes the tasks involved in the planned development of the socialist countries' economies demand that direct economic and scientific-technical cooperation ties between enterprises and economic associations be incorporated in regulations at state or sector level between our countries in the future in accordance with their national programs for socioeconomic development. Within this framework our country advocates the most extensive direct cooperation on a contract basis between Romania's enterprises and economic associations and those of the USSR, above all in key industrial sectors, notably through creating combined production and research associations in various spheres of mutual interest.

Sending the Soviet people a fraternal greeting to mark the 40th anniversary of the first Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance between Romania and the USSR, the Romanian people are profoundly satisfied with the results of the multifaceted development of our fruitful cooperation. They are convinced these ties will assume even greater dimensions in the future and will make an even weightier contribution to implementing the plans for both countries' socioeconomic development and to increasing the prestige and influence of socialism on earth and the success of the great cause of peace and progress for mankind.

'First Equitable Treaty'

PM101227 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Feb 88 Second Edition p 3

[Colonel B. Ivanov article under the rubric "Today Is the 40th Anniversary of the Signing of the Soviet-Romanian Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance": "New Targets Ahead"]

[Text] The fraternal socialist countries keep alive the good tradition of solemnly celebrating portentous events which have played an important role in their formation and development and become turning points in the history of their relations. Such an event in the history of

Soviet-Romanian cooperation is the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance signed in Moscow 40 years ago, on 4 February 1948. It enshrined the friendly relations which had become established between the two countries in the postwar years on the basis of the principles of mutual respect and recognition of the states' independence and sovereignty. That treaty provided for the deepening and broadening of economic, political, and cultural ties. It was of special significance for ensuring Romania's independent democratic development following the abolition of the monarchy in 1947 and the transfer to the stage of socialist building.

The Soviet-Romanian treaty wrecked the calculations of internal reaction and imperialist states aimed at restoring the old order in the country. It was Romania's first equitable treaty, which guaranteed its independence and laid the foundations for the all-around development of relations between the two countries on the principles of socialist internationalism. The new Soviet-Romanian Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance signed in July 1970 was a reliable basis for further deepening and broadening cooperation between our countries in subsequent years.

The Romanian people, implementing the 13th RCP Congress decisions, have achieved considerable successes today. It was pointed out at the RCP National Conference held in December 1987 that Romania has already attained the level of countries of average development in terms of per capita output, and the level of developed countries in certain important industrial sectors. During the past 2 years of the 5-year plan the volume of commodity output in the republic increased more than 10 percent, while agricultural production increased 20 percent. Substantial growth in labor productivity and national revenue has been achieved. At the same time, there are difficulties and shortcomings in the country's socioeconomic development. Special attention has now been devoted to improving the work of the country's power, oil, and mining industries. The supply of a number of foodstuffs to the population has to be improved. As the RCP National Conference emphasized, Romania has all the conditions for fulfilling the plans for the country's socioeconomic development during 1988-1990 and achieving the goals set by the 13th RCP Congress in the sphere of the intensive development of industry, agriculture, and other sectors of the economy.

The friendship and close cooperation of the Soviet and Romanian peoples are of great significance for successful advancement along the path of progress. The attainment of new development targets and the entire contemporary situation insistently demand increasing cooperation among the fraternal socialist countries. The Soviet Union and socialist Romania are cooperating fruitfully in the international arena, advancing concerted peace initiatives within the framework of the Warsaw Pact Organization. In his speech at the RCP National Conference N. Ceausescu, RCP general secretary and president of Romania, called the signing of the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles an event of worldwide historical significance.

Throughout the postwar years the Soviet Union has held first place in Romanian trade. It accounts for almost one-third of Romania's foreign trade turnover. Over the past 2 years alone commodity turnover between the USSR and Romania has increased almost 50 percent.

Deliveries from the USSR of types of raw materials most important to the Romanian economy are of great significance to Romania. Raw materials and energy carriers account for half the commodity turnover between the two countries. Romania benefits from deliveries from the USSR to satisfy half its requirements for imports of oil, iron ore, and cotton. Equipment for various sectors of industry occupies an important place in Soviet exports. Soviet television sets, tape recorders, refrigerators, movie equipment, and clocks and watches are in great demand in Romania.

Romania in turn exports to the Soviet Union drilling rigs, equipment for the petrochemical and gas industries, machine tools, agricultural equipment, and other goods. Deliveries of them make up approximately 45 percent of Romanian exports. Romanian furniture and sewn and knitted goods are widely known to the Soviet purchaser.

Romania's participation in constructing the Krivoy Rog Mining and Enriching Combine and the Soviet transit gas pipeline across Dobrudja, the setting up of ties along lines of production, scientific, and technical collaboration—all these are examples of the desire of both countries to raise the level of interaction and make bolder use of new paths and forms of cooperation. Broad new prospects for this are opened up by the Long-Term Program of Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation between the USSR and Romania through the Year 2000, signed in 1986.

The mechanism of cooperation between the Soviet Union and Romania is constantly being improved. The May 1987 visit to Romania of M.S. Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, was an important landmark which gave a new boost to the development of all-around Soviet-Romanian cooperation. Addressing a Romanian-Soviet friendship rally in Bucharest, the Soviet leader emphasized: "We see socialist Romania as a state related to the Soviet Union by its class nature and as one of our allies and comrades in the common cause. We are fully resolved to do everything to make our cooperation still stronger and more fruitful in all spheres of social life."

The traditions of combat cooperation between the Armed Forces of the USSR and Romania are continuing to develop for the good of peace and socialism within the

framework of the Warsaw Pact, whose military doctrine is subordinate to the task of preventing war—both nuclear and conventional war—and is aimed at ensuring the reliable defense of socialist gains.

Soviet people and the servicemen of the Soviet Armed Forces value highly the relations of friendship between our parties, countries, peoples, and armies. True to the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism, the Soviet Union pursues a policy of strengthening allied relations with Romania, broadening interaction in the political, economic, cultural, and other spheres, and developing all-around cooperation within the framework of the Warsaw Pact and CEMA.

Political & Social

Politburo Discusses Housing Situation

LD112209 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] In the CPSU Central Committee Politburo.

A session of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo held on 11 February examined questions connected with accelerating the development of individual housing construction in towns and rural areas. It was noted during the discussion that this form of construction is of great importance for the fulfilment of the task, set by the 27th CPSU Congress, of providing every Soviet family with a separate apartment or individual house by the year 2000. Yet in many union republics, krays and oblasts, there has been a slackening of the attention paid to putting up individual houses. Unjustified restrictions and prohibitions have been imposed in this matter, and there exists a wrong, and often hostile, attitude to the individual builder. Local bodies are not always helpful in resolving problems of allocation of sites and housing construction.

A decision adopted by the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers contains measures to increase the economic interest of enterprises and local bodies in building, rebuilding and repairing individual dwellings for the working people. New and more favorable conditions have been laid down for the provision of credit for individual building, and market stocks of building materials and equipment are to be considerably increased. It is envisaged that associations [tovarishchestvo] of individual builders and specialized design and building cooperatives will be set up, and the contract and direct-labor methods of housebuilding expanded.

The Politburo supported a government proposal on training and retraining cadres for external economic activity and enhancing their skills. As production associations, enterprises and organizations, ministries and departments enter the external market, solving the problem of enhancing the skills of cadres engaged in external economic activity is of great importance for the successful fulfilment of the tasks facing us in this sphere. It is proposed to organize the training of external economic specialists, and to enhance their skills, in such a way as to take account of the new mechanism for managing external economic ties in the USSR, the modern conditions of the world economy, and advanced foreign experience in this sphere.

A report by Comrade Gromyko was heard on the results of the USSR Supreme Soviet's work in 1987. The Politburo noted that the main content of the work of the country's supreme organ of state power and of its Presidium and the Standing Commissions of its Chambers has been to implement the party's strategic policy of restructuring, acceleration of socioeconomic development, broad democratization of the life of the state and of society, and the widening of glasnost. Work was carried out consistently on the improvement of legislation and the strengthening of legality and law and order. The external political activity of the USSR Supreme Soviet was purposefully implemented.

Emphasis was placed on the need to further intensify supervision of the soviets of all levels and to mobilize by all possible means their efforts directed toward practical fulfillment of the tasks set by the 27th party congress and by subsequent plenums of the CPSU Central Committee, and toward ensuring the integrated development of their territories, pursuing a strong social policy and stepping up their monitoring of the work of the bodies accountable to them.

Information on the progress of preparations for the fourth all-union congress of collective farmers, which will be held 23-25 March, 1988, was examined. It was noted that this work has entered its concluding stage. Meetings of collective farmers, conferences, and congresses have taken place, at which 4,400 delegates have been elected. In the conditions of broad democracy, lively discussion of the draft model constitution for kolkhozes continues.

The practical measures mapped out by the government in preparation for the all-union population census in January, 1989, were supported. The census will provide the statistical data needed for the implementation of the country's socioeconomic development.

The Politburo discussed and approved the results of the work of the CPSU Central Committee's Party Control Committee during 1987. The session noted the increased influence of party control in strengthening party and state discipline and establishing in the life and work of party organizations an atmosphere of mutual demandingness and exactingness. More is being expected of party members with regard to observance of the ideological and moral norms of conduct.

At the new stage of restructuring, the party control bodies are called upon to continue to perfect their work of checking the fulfillment of party decisions, promoting the deepening of democratization and glasnost, struggling persistently to eradicate peremptory bureaucratic methods, and establishing in the activities of their cadres genuinely Leninist principles of leadership.

The results were approved of Comrade Gorbachev's meeting, and Comrade Shevardnadze's talks, with Indonesian Foreign Minister Kusumaatmaja. Note was taken of the importance of deepening the Soviet-Indonesian dialogue on strengthening peace and security in Asia and the Pacific and on creating a healthier political climate in that part of the world. Confirmation was given of the willingness of the Soviet side to promote the further development of relations between the USSR and Indonesia in all spheres, including increasing goods turnover and arranging economic cooperation on a mutually beneficial basis.

The session examined and approved the results of the conversations of Comrades Gorbachev, Gromyko, and Shevardnadze with M. Orzechowski, member of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo and Poland's foreign minister. It was noted with satisfaction that Soviet-Polish political, economic and ideological cooperation is developing dynamically and forging ahead; it is being enriched with a new content and its form is being perfected. It was stressed that there is unity of views between the CPSU and the PZPR on international questions.

The CPSU Central Committee Politburo approved the results of Comrade Gorbachev's meeting with Spaeth, prime minister of Baden-Wuertemberg and deputy chairman of the Christian Democratic Union in the FRG. It was noted that relations between the USSR and the FRG have already begun to move onto a new level. Creating a stable structure for long term economic and cultural contacts would be conducive to a positive buildup in Soviet-West German relations and would thereby help to improve the general political atmosphere in Europe as a whole.

The Politburo also examined certain other questions about the implementation of the 27th party congress decisions in domestic and foreign policy.

Zaykov Addresses Youth Palace Commissioning

PM101115 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jan 88 p 1

[TASS report: "Independently Means Responsibly"]

[Text] The capital's young residents recently received a long-awaited gift from construction workers. The first phase of the Moscow Palace of Youth on Komsomolskiy Prospekt was commissioned. When construction work is finished, the Moscow Palace of Youth will occupy a total area of 38,000 square meters and will be able to accommodate 3,500 young men and women at any one time.

It is planned to hold Komsomol conferences, international symposiums, and other major youth events in the palace's halls. The palace will also perform the task of coordinating the activity of rayon youth centers and associations, cafe-clubs, and independent [samodeyatelnyy] collectives, and of summing up and disseminating their experience.

L.N. Zaykov, Politburo member, CPSU Central Committee secretary and Moscow CPSU Gorkom first secretary, visited the Moscow Palace of Youth 29 January.

L.N. Zaykov had a frank and amicable conversation with members of the Moscow Komsomol Gorkom. S. Smirnov, first secretary of the Komsomol Gorkom, spoke about the affairs and problems of the capital's Komsomol organization, which unites more than 1.1 million young men and women within its ranks, and about what the gorkom is doing to give a specific and practical meaning to the 20th Komsomol Congress decisions and to boost young Muscovites' contribution to restructuring.

It was noted at the meeting that young people's activeness, which increased just before the 20th Komsomol Congress, has declined recently. It is necessary to raise it to the level of today's tasks. For a long time the Komsomol organizations minded their own business, so to speak, and did not check their work against the tasks facing society as a whole. Now these difficulties are being overcome and the capital's Komsomol organization is making a growing contribution to the solution of city-wide tasks. This is also helped by the Moscow Komsomol's growing independence in selecting forms and methods of activity, as well as in financial and many other matters.

In the course of the conversation the Komsomol activists raised many questions about how to improve labor, patriotic, and moral education, prepare young men to defend the motherland, and strengthen physical tempering. Problems of enhancing the efficiency of work by Komsomol and young people's teams and student construction detachments and of developing young people's scientific and technical creativity were discussed. There was a keen discussion on how to tangibly improve young Muscovites' working, living, and leisure conditions and, of course, how to turn the new Moscow Palace of Youth into a genuine center for education, creativity, and leisure.

Old habits, L.N. Zaykov, said, should not be introduced into this wonderful new building. There was more than enough time to think up new avenues of activity during the years of construction work. But why do plans so far boil down to nothing more than holding discotheques? Multifaceted and meaningful work should be carried out here, and new forms should be verified and disseminated among the rayons. Today, when restructuring is under way all over the country, we do not always sense it in the Komsomol's work. A new stage must begin, and this remarkable building must help not only to organize young people's leisure but primarily to step up the restructuring of Komsomol organizations' activity.

In the new conditions of economic management, should the palace become the venue for commercial shows and events? Economic accountability [khozraschet] is a good thing. But not everything ought to be reduced to financial profit. The palace must become primarily a center for serious political education work with the growing generation. It would be correct to use Komsomol efforts to reconstruct and provide amenities in the park by the palace, and it would be worth thinking about further expanding this complex. Specific proposals on this score are required from the Komsomol Gorkom.

People often ask whether today's young people have become worse. Of course not, but many young people lack a keen sense of responsibility for our common cause. A special role has to be played here by the Komsomol, because anything we fail to do today could produce grave negative consequences tomorrow.

The 20th Komsomol Congress gave broad rights and opportunities to Komsomol organizations, and now it is important to make proper use of them. The Komsomol must not overlook controversial issues; it is its duty to explain party policy and convey it to the mind and heart of each young person.

The rhythm of the party's life and the content of its work today are determined by preparations for the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference.

Our paramount tasks are clear. They are formulated in the Basic Guidelines for Work by Moscow's Working People in 1988 and in the pledges by labor collectives and rayons for a fitting welcome of the conference.

Work is due to be completed this year on two very important documents—the Integrated General Plan for the Development of Moscow and Moscow Oblast and the "Progress-95" Comprehensive Territorial-Sectorial Program. Komsomol organizations are called upon to find their place in their elaboration and implementation.

Komsomol leaders must realize that the art of political leadership demands the ability to organically combine the persistent solution of urgent tasks and tangible current results with a clear vision of long-term prospects and assessment of the scale of what has been achieved from tomorrow's standpoint.

This is the only way to form a truly Bolshevik approach toward work, which has nothing in common with an abstract penchant for hare-brained schemes, pipe-dreams, or pseudorevolutionary attempts to resolve pressing tasks by leaps or cavalry charges.

Komsomol workers must always pursue knowledge, must regularly and carefully study sociopolitical and economic literature and the press, and must adopt the most fruitful forms of work.

This is especially important now when a radical economic reform is being implemented, the Law on the State Enterprise has come into force, and labor collective councils are being set up. It is necessary to have profound knowledge and understanding of the essence of the documents outlining the concept of the improvement of economic management. Otherwise the braking mechanism cannot be demolished.

The Komsomol aktiv must be more resolute in changing the style of its activity and in abandoning cliches and stereotypes. Results will be produced not by mass events but by daily work among young people. Of course, the ways to achieve results cannot be seen from behind closed office doors. But the cause cannot be promoted only by the number of visits to primary organizations, either.

Every visit to a Komsomol organization must make its mark. If you have come, so to speak, on business—then do some work, roll up your sleeves and help the comrades to eliminate shortcomings.

There is nothing easier than to record the existence of negative phenomena in young people's consciousness and mentality and to "assail the laggards" with the help of numerous events. What is actually necessary is to creatively study life, to forecast the development of events, and to set a personal example in upholding the genuine values of our way of life.

The complex processes linked with the emergence of various independent public associations demand thorough attention and skilled reaction. Recently there have been increasingly frequent instances of such clubs and associations being infiltrated by antisocial elements which strive to take advantage of the conditions of democratization and glasnost for their own selfish purposes, up to and including attempts to push independent formations into actions which are clearly hostile to the Soviet system.

Whenever we let political work just drift along, ideological adversaries take advantage of every chance they get to impose on young people, beneath the banner of restructuring, their own viewpoint, which is actually contrary to the interests of restructuring and our ideals. Democracy must not be confused with demagoguery. It is necessary to be bolder, to act assertively and effectively in ideological and political work.

Young people's military-patriotic education is one of the Komsomol's important tasks. Everything must be done to ensure that the ranks of the armed forces are joined by young men who are physically and morally prepared to defend their motherland and the gains of older generations. A good start has been made—physical culture and health complexes are being set up in every rayon in the capital. But this is not enough. We must ensure that every microrayon and every neighborhood has its own physical culture ground and that these grounds are always full of young people. It is the Komsomol that must set the tone in this work.

In order to diversify the Moscow Komsomol's work, it may be appropriate to revive and creatively apply in new conditions some good aspects of the past that have been forgotten—forms and methods which were successfully applied in Komsomol work in the prewar and postwar years. The Komsomol's glorious history must be well known, and use must be made of positive experience that has stood up to the tests of practice.

Recently the Komsomol has dealt only with leisure. It has ducked out of everything else, so to speak. It is necessary for the Komsomol to help develop qualities like comradeship, friendship, and collectivism. In order to make its work attractive and interesting, it must rally young people for specific causes and encourage young Muscovites to participate in solving the problems that are vital to all city residents. It is necessary to seek forms enabling young people to fully display their energy, enthusiasm, and uncompromising attitude in overcoming stagnation and routine.

There may be mistakes. But it is necessary to try—only experience will show whether the solution is correct and effective.

There was a businesslike discussion of the question of young people's contribution to the solution of the housing problem, the reconstruction of the city center, and the upgrading of residential areas and highways. Much in this work depends on correct organization of the movement of young people's housing complexes and student construction detachments. Of course, romance must not be forgotten. But is there no romance in daily work for the beloved city's benefit? Soviet and economic organs must help young people in this work. What often happens is that a construction detachment is formed first, and then there is a rush to find some work for it to do.

One of the Komsomol's central tasks is to develop in every way young people's scientific and technical creativity. It is necessary to ensure that Komsomol committees and councils of young scientists and specialists are bolder in upholding the interests of talented engineers and research workers who are capable of raising our fatherland's science and technology to a new qualitative level.

A CPSU Central Committee Plenum will be held in the very near future on the problems of restructuring the country's entire education system. Moscow's schools, vocational and technical schools, technical colleges, and VUZ's experience acute problems with poor standards of tuition, backwardness of the material base, and isolation from the city's actual needs.

Glasnost has brought to light major failures in young people's ideological and moral education which have built up over many years.

Now Komsomol leaders are acting as a firefighting team, extinguishing the consequences of their own inadequacies in work.

Labor for the people's benefit and resolute abandonment of freeloading sentiments must be the foundation of young people's world outlook, active stance in life, and contribution to the motherland's socioeconomic development.

It was noted at the meeting that the party will always back young people's initiatives provided they do not remain on paper but are translated into practical deeds. The capital's Komsomol can and must be the vanguard of Soviet young people.

Razumovskiy Attends Technical Societies Meeting

PM101541 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 4 Feb 88 p 2

[Unattributed report under the general heading "Seventh All-Union Congress of Scientific and Technical Societies": "Toward the Heights of Technical Progress"]

[Text] When it becomes clear at the test stage that a new machine is worse than its foreign counterparts or that plans containing the seeds of disaster are being implemented, we are all bewildered: Who gave permission, trusted the idea, or signed the authorization? Investigations start, and it suddenly becomes clear that the question was resolved secretly with a view to departmental interests. Opponents who disputed the foolish decision were simply not given a hearing.

Now the scientific and technical public is staking its claim to the role of such opponents in resolving problems. It is a tempting idea to create on the basis of scientific and technical societies a social system for managing scientific and technical progress in addition to the state system. That is why it is being actively discussed at the Seventh All-Union Congress of Scientific and Technical Societies.

Many of the congress participants made no secret in their speeches of the fact that the scientific and technical public has not yet made its presence felt in this role. Yes, there have been scathing speeches by scientists, specialists and workers on the problems of scientific and technical progress. But, speaking frankly, boldly, passionately, and with principle, they still far from matched the protests of writers about, say, the problems of Lake Baykal, the Aral Sea, or the redirection of the Siberian rivers.

Many of the speakers pinned their hopes for boosting combativeness on the creation of an alliance of scientific and engineering societies. Discussing its draft statutes, they stressed that they visualize it as a voluntary democratic organization operating on the principles of self-management, self-financing, and democratic centralism.

The speakers at the 3 February morning session were: S.V. Vasilyeva, engineer at the "Krasnyy Oktyabr" Metallurgical Plant in Volgograd; Professor I.A. Smaragdov, chairman of the Tula Oblast Scientific and Technical Society Council; A.V. Stepanenko, vice president of the Belorussian SSR Academy of Sciences; A.N. Mutalibov, chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR Gosplan; V.S. Pavlov, chairman of the USSR State Committee on Prices; G.A. Ter-Martirosyan, deputy chairman of the Armenian Republic Scientific and Technical Society Council; A.A.

Nikonov, president of the V.I. Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences; AUCCTU Chairman S.A. Shalayev; K.M. Mechukayeva, department chief at the Kirghiz branch of the All-Union Scientific Research Institute of Market Forces and Demand; G.B. Stroganov, deputy chairman of the USSR Gosplan; K.I. Nazyrov, director of the Kamchatka department of the "Giprorybprom" Institute; E.M. Petlakh, secretary of Daugavpils Latvian Communist Party Gorkom; Professor A.F. Dregalin of the Kazan Aviation Institute; V.K. Chub, chairman of the Kharkov Oblast Trade Union Council; Academician E.Kh. Tyugu, secretary of the Estonian SSR Academy of Sciences Computer Science and Technical Physics Department; A.F. Poryadin, RSFSR deputy minister of housing and municipal services; I.S. Silayev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Machine Building Bureau; Academician I.V. Gorynin; R.N. Tevzadze, general director of the "Gruzneft" Production Association; Ye.V. Parshina, machine operator at the "Timashevskiy" Sovkhoz in Krasnodar Kray; Doctor of Technical Sciences Professor L.I. Volchkevich, faculty chief at the N.E. Bauman Moscow Higher Technical College; V.I. Mironenko, first secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee; Doctor of Technical Sciences Professor I.A. Rosselevich, scientific secretary at the Television Scientific Research Institute; and V.S. Solovyeva, general director of the Tiraspol Sewn Goods Association.

The report of the credentials commission was delivered by its chairman Yu.M. Tsygulev.

The congress delegates and guests were greeted by A. Paterson, president of the British Institution of Civil Engineers; E. Capone, general adviser to the Italian national council of engineers; Yi Cha-pang, chairman of the DPRK State Science and Technology Committee and the DPRK General Scientific and Technical Union Central Committee; and G. Pedro, chairman of the Cuban National Union of Architects and Engineers.

G.P. Razumovskiy, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, took part in the second day of the congress.

Today we are publishing extracts from a number of speeches by the congress participants.

The congress continues.

Lukyanov Tours Rostov Oblast, Meets Workers

PM090935 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Feb 88 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Great Effort for Every Day of Restructuring"]

[Text] Rostov-na-Donu, 1 Feb—The most crucial, most complex and important period of restructuring has arrived—the period of its actual embodiment in the specific deeds of millions of working people. We must advance every day, every hour, if only by a single step, increasing efforts to make the economy healthier, improve the people's well-being, and broaden the democratic foundations of the life of society. This atmosphere being asserted in the country of the rallying of the entire Soviet people around the party's policy of restructuring was characteristic of the meetings which A.I. Lukyanov, CPSU Central Committee secretary, had with Rostov Oblast working people 29 January through 1 February.

The meetings began with a visit to Taganrog's "Priboy" Plant. The highly productive machine tools and automatic lines being installed there not only make possible the stable fulfillment of plans and pledges but also make people's work easier. The plant's sports and fitness complex—one of the first in the city—serves the harmonious development of the working person.

The miners of Shakhtinskiy Rayon, the oldest coal-producing rayon in the oblast, are extracting fuel under complex mining and geological conditions. The enterprise's modernization and the opening up of new, almost inaccessible galleries are the chief concern of the face workers of the "Rostovugol" Association's Krasin Mine, whose team leader A.F. Vlasov was once the fiduciary of RSFSR Supreme Soviet Deputy A.I. Lukyanov. In a conversation at the enterprise workers' club the miners, figures in hand, detailed problems of concern to them,.

The question of tunnelers was raised point-blank. It is time mining science also stirred itself, they declared, and joined more actively in restructuring: We are ready to extend the mine's life by a further 30 years, but there are still no reliable machines for working particularly narrow seams.

The tasks of scientists and engineers in accelerating the economy's transfer to an intensive footing were the subject of A.I. Lukyanov's conversation with professors and teachers of the Novocherkassk Polytechnical Institute.

The war left a deep scar on the miners' city. People are reminded of it by a monument to the miner heroes who gave their lives in the struggle against the fascists. A.I. Lukyanov laid flowers at the memorial. The inhabitants of the Don district asked him to convey to the CPSU Central Committee the miners' mandate: Do not permit war, do not deviate from the firm policy of eliminating nuclear weapons.

Hundreds of residents of the city and also of the Oktyabrskiy (rural) Rayon—voters of Shakhtinsky Electoral Okrug—came to a meeting with their deputy held in the Footwear Production Association's House of Culture.

The further consolidation of society around the policy of restructuring is taking place in the country, A.I. Lukyanov said in his speech. We have entered its second stage, when the center of gravity is shifting to the plane of the

practical realization of our policy and our plans, when the ideas elaborated by the party must be embodied in the actual deeds of millions of people.

Therefore the fate of restructuring will largely depend on the extent to which the new ideological and moral atmosphere of democracy, glasnost, criticism, and self-criticism becomes established in society and on the degree of the working people's responsibility for the state of affairs at their enterprises, on kolkhozes, and in the country as a whole.

For this it was necessary, above all, to analyze the historical preconditions of our current struggle and labor and the reasons for mistakes and for those phenomena which caused concern to our society and led to the conclusion on the need for restructuring. These assessments and conclusions were clearly formulated in M.S. Gorbachev's report at the ceremonial session devoted to Great October's 70th anniversary.

The task of involving everyone and every collective in the struggle for restructuring is being resolved in the economic sphere above all. The first results of this struggle show we are on the right road.

Describing the work of the national economy in 1987, the CPSU Central Committee secretary pointed out that Rostov Oblast working people have also achieved definite successes. The actual growth rates for commodity output and labor productivity in the current 5-year plan are higher than planned. Last year the entire increase in the production volume was secured as a result of higher labor productivity, output prime costs were reduced, and it was possible for the first time to completely fulfill the social program regarding commissioning housing, hospitals, medical centers, schools, preschool establishments, clubs, and houses of culture.

At the same time, there has far from everywhere been a decisive turn toward intensifying the economy along the lines of accelerating scientific and technical progress. Obsolete equipment is only slowly being replaced. The state acceptance system has highlighted acute problems connected with output quality, violations of technological discipline, and nonryhthmic production. Output sales plans regarding contract deliveries are not being fulfilled.

Therefore it would be premature to think we have already broken the braking mechanism and fully asserted new economic relations everywhere. Positive changes in the economy have not yet become sufficiently stable. Here it is possible to find many objective causes of the existing shortcomings, including poor assistance from central organs. But every time we should look more closely at ourselves. Has everything been done locally? The economic reform and the new enterprise law greatly extend the independence of labor collectives and local organs. Under these conditions it is necessary to radically enhance the responsibility of leaders of party, soviet, and economic organs for the state of affairs, for the actual resolution of urgent problems, and for the cause of restructuring. Not only leaders. To make restructuring irreversible, every working person must involve himself in the economic reform.

The line chosen by the party of involving the entire people in managing society, the line of developing socialist democracy is the chief guarantee of the irreversibility of restructuring and, at the same time, its most effective instrument.

Questions of the further democratization of Soviet society will be central to the 19th All-Union Party Conference scheduled for June this year. The concept of holding it is now being elaborated and is embracing an increasingly wide range of problems.

These include, above all, the strengthening of our system's constitutional foundations and the enhancement of the role of the soviets as the representative organs of people's power closest to the population. The task consists in making every soviet a real epicenter where all basic questions of the development of the local economy and of the life and routine of the person and every family come together, and ensuring that it is a plenipotentiary and, at the same time, a fully responsible organ in this matter.

In this connection A.I. Lukyanov told the gathering about the activity of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet, the work of its standing commissions, and progress in fulfilling the mandates of the voters of Shakhtinskiy Electoral Okrug.

In ensuring the active participation of every working person in restructuring, the CPSU Central Committee secretary continued, our party and state show constant concern to create the necessary political, organizational, and legal guarantees for this.

Restructuring is inseparably connected with strengthening socialist legality, without which stable democracy is quite unthinkable.

The party has done a great deal to update our legislation since the Central Committee April (1985) Plenum. But these measures must be viewed just as the start of an in-depth and large-scale review of all existing Soviet legislation. In the current 5-year plan we have to do great, strenuous work on preparing and adopting new laws associated with the development of the economy, the social sphere, culture, and the people's socialist self-management and with the broadening of guarantees of citizens' rights and freedoms, that is, to create the sound legal base of restructuring and its legal backup. Restructuring is also making higher demands on the very content of our legislative acts. The law must resolutely stand guard over the interests of society, prohibiting that which could harm the interests of the whole people.

At the same time, we know that, however good an adopted law may be, it only lives when rigorously observed and applied. In this connection exceptional significance attaches under modern conditions to the improved working of all our law enforcement organs. Concerned for improving their work, the party is drawing up a broad judicial and legal reform aimed at enhancing the prestige and independence of the court, stepping up prosecutor's office supervision of the observance of laws, and improving the activities of lawyers, arbitration, and militia and justice organs.

The task of restructuring the whole business of citizens' legal education is becoming increasingly urgent. In practice we very frequently encounter citizens' ignorance of their rights and obligations and a low standard of legal culture in many economic leaders, soviet apparatus officials, and, quite frankly, also party workers. It is sufficient to remind you that courts satisfy approximately 40 percent of citizens' suits regarding violations of labor legislation. Every year the prosecutor's office lodges tens of thousands of protests and representations against illegal acts by state and public organizations. Every year up to 10,000 local soviet ispolkom resolutions are abrogated.

Shedding light on the conditions under which millions of people are joining in the restructuring, A.I. Lukyanov emphasized that the Communist Party and its Central Committee have been the instigator of all the changes in the life of society. It is possible to say with confidence that at the first stage of restructuring the party coped successfully with the role of chief architect and formulator of the concept of the resolute acceleration of our development. But the present stage demands new efforts of the party, of its every organization, and of every Communist. The opinion is still quite widespread that the causes of slow restructuring lie somewhere outside a particular collective or a particular party organization and that shortcomings will vanish of their own accord if some decisions are adopted at the center. Such "vertical thinking," as it were, is the result of accumulated inertia, of a lack of healthy criticism and self-criticism, of steady formalism.

The question now stands like this: Without a radical change in the work and the entire internal life of primary party organizations, without the maximum activation of the elected party aktiv and every Communist, all our initiatives will be left hanging in the air and provoke the people's mistrust. Wherever appeals and slogans do not take the place of practical deeds, wherever words do not lose touch with reality, wherever there is immediate strict responsibility for assigned tasks, there is no place for a situation where some people resolutely set to work, while others assiduously make a pretense of it.

Therefore, party committees and primary organizations have been and will remain the heart and the chief motor of the organization of restructuring at the center and locally, in every labor collective. Precisely they bear the chief responsibility for creating a favorable atmosphere in every collective, rayon, and city, for uniting people, supporting their labor activity, and directing it toward resolving the tasks of restructuring.

This, if you like, is the essence of all work on deepening socialist democracy as the chief guarantee and main engine of restructuring. The more democracy in our country is deepened, the higher will be the demands made on the standard of party organizations' work.

It is possible to state with confidence today that our entire society is emerging from stagnation, and positive processes will grow. But this is a complex matter. Very difficult times await us in the future, as it is necessary to restructure views, intensify thinking, and change one's attitude toward the assigned task and one's own actions. What is needed here is endurance and patience, the ability to see and understand that the most important thing today is persistence and purposefulness in practical actions to carry out restructuring.

Specific and urgent tasks in accelerating the pace of restructuring were set both before themselves and before their labor collectives by the speakers at the meeting—A.F. Vlasov, leader of a comprehensive team of face workers at the Krasin Mine; M.G. Gayduk, mechanic on the "Artemovets" Pedigree Stock Sovkhoz; T.S. Soldatenkova, shop foreman at the Footwear Production Association; S.V. Tolstykh, secondary schoolteacher; and N.YA. Popova, controller at the Cotton Combine.

The CPSU Central Committee secretary familiarized himself with the work of the Helicopter Production Association in Rostov and talked with servicemen of the North Caucasus Military District. He visited places associated with Chekhov in Taganrog, saw other sights in the Don district, and visited trade enterprises and subsidiary plots.

A meeting was held at the CPSU Obkom with the oblast's party aktiv.

CPSU Obkom First Secretary B.M. Volodin and Oblispolkom Chairman N.D. Pivovarov accompanied A.I. Lukyanov to the meetings and talks with Rostov Oblast working people.

Editorial Views Leaders' Responsibilities

PM101319 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Feb 88 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Respect for the Leader: It is shown by Deeds and Attitudes to Restructuring"]

[Text] Much is being said and written about leaders and their work and conduct. Not a day passes without the editorial office receiving dozens of letters about the people who head labor collectives. The most diverse opinions and views are expressed, sometimes directly

contradictory ones. But people are agreed on one thing: The leader's authority depends first and foremost on his attitude toward restructuring and on his level of efficiency and morality.

"For some reason it has become fashionable," writes V. Plakhov from the Moscow region, "to berate leaders and accuse them of virtually every mortal sin. I myself 'rebuke' hecklers like that and put them in their place. I have seen many leaders during my lifetime. It is my firm conviction that in the main they are honest and conscientious workers. They do not rest, day or night. They are responsible for everything, they account for everything. They are rarely at home with their families. Whatever people say and however much these people vary in character, you have to respect their work. It deserves praise."

Yes, the majority of the letter writers see leaders as well-educated, competent, energetic, and experienced people who work boldly and selflessly for the interests of the cause. People who are true to their duty and who shoulder the burden of resolving the most complex tasks. It is workers like those who form the basis of our cadre corps. They have always managed to conscientiously do the work entrusted to them. Whatever the difficulties, they have been successful.

"Come and visit us, esteemed journalists," the workers from the "Nazerovskiy" Sovkhoz in Krasnoyarsk Kray, write. "You won't be disappointed, there are things about which to write. Each of us produces output worth R30,000 a year (more than three times the national average). For example, the prime cost of the meat produced on the sovkhoz is one-half the prime cost in the United States. The annual profit has reached R10 million. Bear in mind, furthermore, that this is in Siberia. But the main point is that we have a remarkable leader. We do not think our labor would have been so productive had it not been backed up by the talent and fortitude of our director, A. Veprev, who has held this post for about 30 years. He not only sought and continues to seek ways to ensure that work is well-organized but has also always shown courage in opposing dubious guidelines and instructions and resisting attempts by over-zealous administrators to interfere in the farm's economy. We like his intelligence, his professionalism, his simplicity, and his sincerity."

Each of us can name many people like that. We only have to take a closer look at our leaders' work and attitude. After all, this is the time of resourceful, thoughtful, and resolute workers. The new economic mechanism and the Law on the State Enterprise have provided extensive opportunities for ensuring that their organizational talent and abilities are clearly and fully revealed. Many thousands of leaders realize that. That is why they strive to give an innovative and creative character to their work and that of the collective and to make a worthy contribution to the common cause of restructuring.

Respect for the leader has nothing to do with the submissive execution of all his instructions or tacit acceptance of all decisions, even hasty ones. One-man management and deference to rank are incompatible concepts. It is not meek obedience to the "number one" but the free exchange of views, businesslike debate, constructive discussion, and the rejection of stereotyped and outmoded approaches that now determine the leader's standing.

There is no need to stress how the glorification of modest successes and idle talk about plans rather than results are out of place in mutual relations with leaders. The complex process of restructuring demands a thoughtful approach to present phenomena and a thorough analysis of the situation. So long as we really strive to achieve radical changes we shall permit neither ourselves nor our comrades who head the collective to view our work from a standpoint of self-satisfaction or complacency.

The one in charge bears supreme responsibility, the Russian saying goes. Telling the chief about his shortcomings and harmful elements in his style of work and character is to give him a timely warning and help him avoid serious mistakes. However, as the discussion of party committee and bureau reports on the work of leading restructuring has shown, by no means all party organizations have created an atmosphere of exactingness and demandingness. It still happens that leaders who have made mistakes in their work or have violated the CPSU Rules are dismissed or have their conduct examined without the involvement of the primary organizations. Some people even manage to turn criticism into a compliment. "I am not afraid of speaking the truth straight out—our much respected leader is not demanding enough toward us!"—"truth" of that kind is still often heard at Communists' meetings and party committee plenums.

Leaders' initiative still often involves risk. After all, those economic levers and incentives which are designed to free their hands have not been built into the economic mechanism in full everywhere. Not all of the obsolete instructions and injunctions have been revoked. In these conditions, of course, the manager's innovative actions often clash with the outmoded dogma of bureaucratic paperwork. This is where it is important for party organizations to show the maximum objectivity and lack of bias.

One cannot overlook cases where hedgers, formalists, or over-ambitious officials inflict unjust punishments on independently-minded leaders. A typical example here is provided by the fate of A. Kondakov, former director of the "Krasnozvezdinskiy" Sovkhoz in Tambov Oblast's Muchkapskiy Rayon. He was rightly regarded as a strong manager. He ran the farm intelligently. He did not kowtow to superiors. He did not fear innovation. He was among the first in the rayon to introduce the collective contract and that was where the prosecutor's office

"caught" him: Kondakov has "abused his official position in the creation of a contract link," they said. Other accusations followed. Later on it became clear that the investigation had been prejudiced. The vindicating documents had disappeared from the case and the witnesses were forced to slander the sovkhoz director. For around 5 months A. Kondakov was imprisoned like a dangerous criminal. Three times his case was tried in court and three times the court acquitted him for lack of a criminal element in his actions.

So justice triumphed? Let us read A. Kondakov's own words: "Three months have already passed since the last trial and I have still not been restored to my job or to the party. I have not been paid the prescribed compensation. Can it be that we have our own, unwritten, laws in the Tambov region? Otherwise how can it be that those who slandered me have not suffered in the slightest where I remain guilty although innocent?..."

The mass media owe a great debt to the cadre corps. The newspapers still do not write enough about the difficult work of leaders, their relationships with collectives, or their role as leaders and organizers of restructuring at the local level. The media still prefer criticism of the negligent. But at the same time the media must not forget their duty to offer principled and resolute defense of those who have given a good account of themselves as a real supporter of restructuring and whom people still sometimes try to denigrate for their initiative and unusual approaches.

The modern leader... Mindful of his responsibility and aware of the party's demands and support, he is expected to back up restructuring in his allotted area of work.

New Curbs on Use of Official Cars Described

PM101445 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Feb 88 Second Edition p 2

[Unattributed report: "In the USSR Council of Ministers"]

[Text] The USSR Council of Ministers has adopted a resolution "On Regulating the Use of Official Cars."

The resolution notes that despite the measures that are being adopted, the number of official cars and expenditure on their upkeep are still decreasing too slowly. There are many instances where state cars are used for personal purposes, which evokes justified criticism from the population.

To enhance the economic responsibility of economically accountable enterprises and organizations for the efficient use of funds allocated for the acquisition and maintenance of official cars, the resolution lays down that as from 1 July 1988 expenditure on the acquisition of cars for official travel and also on their upkeep, including drivers' wages, depreciation costs, fuel, repairs, and other maintenance costs, will be covered from the social development fund or other similar funds.

The specific amount of money allocated for these purposes is to be decided by the labor collective council or the council of representatives (agents' meeting) of labor collectives.

It is proposed, as from 1 July 1988, to reduce by 40 percent the number of official cars servicing ministries, departments, institutions, and organizations and funded from union or republic budgets or deductions from the profit (income) of enterprises and organizations under their jurisdiction. Union republic councils of ministers are instructed, during the same timespan, to reduce by 20 percent the number of official cars funded from local budgets (with the exception of cars servicing rural, settlement, and rural rayon soviets of people's deputies).

The cars released as a result of the implementation of the aforementioned measures are to be turned over to trade organizations for sale to the population through commission stores or turned over to taxi enterprises.

In future, cars for official travel will be sold to ministries, departments, institutions, enterprises, and organizations, including cooperative and public organizations, at state retail prices rather than wholesale prices, as hitherto.

Various rules for the use of cars for official travel are laid down. For instance, compensation will be paid to officials whose work necessitates regular travel and who use their own cars for official purposes. The USSR Ministry of Finance and the USSR Gosplan have been instructed to elaborate and approve the scale and procedure for paying this compensation.

It is planned to implement measures to switch to providing cars for ministries, departments, institutions, enterprises, and organizations on the basis of contracts with general motor transport enterprises, without the cars being attached to specific organizations.

The requirements which special cars will have to meet have been laid down and their use for other than the specified purpose or for personal purposes is prohibited. The USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs is instructed to strictly monitor this.

The resolution also lays down other measures designed to regulate the use of official cars.

Azerbaijan Party Leader Addresses Plenum

PM101331 Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian 26 Jan 88 pp 1, 2-3, 4

["Report by the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Bureau on Work on the Leadership of Restructuring, Delivered by K.M. Bagirov, First Secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee, at the 23 January 1988 Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Plenum"—BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY headline]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The leadership of ideological work in the Central Committee is implemented by Central Committee Secretary Comrade R.E. Mekhtiyev. He must cardinally change his style and methods of work, overcome the great inertia, not evade controversial issues, not gloss over acute problems, enhance efficiency, seriously and deeply investigate the most complex spiritual processes and the activity of ministries, scientific institutions, educational establishments, and creative unions, and ensure fundamental restructuring of all ideological activity. In short, Comrade R.E. Mekhtiyev must significantly improve his work.

Comrades! The process of restructuring, democratization, and glasnost creates fundamentally new, favorable conditions for strengthening socialist legality and law and order and improving moral education. The Central Committee Bureau notes that the process of improving the moral atmosphere and cleansing our life of everything alien to the nature of socialism has been stepped up recently in the republic. Quite a few violators of socialist legality have been exposed and deservedly punished, and criminal and party proceedings have been taken against a series of leading economic workers who had sullied themselves through money-grubbing and had engaged in overreporting, window dressing, and other unsavory deeds. As you know, the trial of former Minister of the Cotton Cleaning Industry Salmanov has ended and he was sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment for receiving and repeatedly paying bribes. More than 160 officials have been punished for bribery over a 2-year period. It must be said, however, that this disgraceful phenomenon has not yet been eradicated, and the struggle against this evil must continue with even greater intensity.

Criminal groups which operated in cotton, grape, and tobacco growing, other sectors of the agro-industrial complex, trade, consumer services, local industry, construction, and transport in the republic were exposed recently. More than 500 leaders of all ranks were arrested for embezzlement and abuses in agriculture alone, and criminal proceedings were instituted against several thousand people.

The leadership of a number of leading sectors of the national economy, party committees, and local soviets has been strengthened. These facts, which have been repeatedly and openly discussed at plenums, aktiv meetings, and conferences and in the republican press, offer graphic evidence of the acuteness of the struggle that has been launched against negative phenomena. But it must be admitted that we have not achieved a fundamental breakthrough, that many urgent problems are far from being resolved. The Central Committee Bureau believes that the solution of the question of crime prevention is unsatisfactory and that embezzlement of socialist property and instances of mismanagement and the extraction of unearned income are not promptly detected and eradicated.

The struggle against negative phenomena will become genuinely assertive only when the broad public joins in it and all labor collectives are mobilized. Otherwise we will be unable to erect a reliable barrier in the path of embezzlers and people living at society's expense and to establish everywhere an atmosphere of intolerance and condemnation of those who encroach upon the people's wealth and citizens' health, dignity, and property.

Party committees, as the political vanguard of restructuring, must make a serious contribution to this cleansing work. Life proved convincingly a long time ago that, unless the principles of social justice are consistently implemented, we cannot even think of the moral health of collectives and of society as a whole. We must bear this most fully in mind in all work on moral education. The Central Committee Bureau is called upon to head this work.

Leaders of law enforcement organs bear great responsibility for the eradication of phenomena alien to socialism and the strengthening of socialist legality. It must be noted that a series of measures were taken recently to step up the activity of law and order organs and to cleanse their ranks of wayward, incompetent, and compromised individuals. Considerable numbers of personnel linked by family ties have been dismissed from the organs over the last 18 months alone. More than 100 staffers guilty of illegalities have suffered party and disciplinary punishment, and many of them have been expelled from the CPSU and dismissed from law enforcement organs. The leadership of all republican law enforcement organs has been strengthened. Work to improve this important sector is continuing, and must be unflaggingly monitored by party committees.

People's control organs are an important link in the struggle against mismanagement and the waste and squandering of socialist property. This sector is headed by Comrade Sh.M. Aliyev, candidate member of the Central Committee Bureau and chairman of the republican People's Control Committee. He must step up his work, be more enterprising, decisive, and firm in organizing monitoring of the implementation of party and government decisions, and must ensure that monitoring is more productive. The committee still wastes too much time on sessions and conferences, and it is time for it to more actively tackle real work at local level.

The party, making greater demands of all its links, is today paying particular attention to organizing monitoring of the verification of execution and the practice of party control. The Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Party Control Commission and its chairman, Comrade R.V. Akhundov, candidate member of the Central Committee Bureau, must step up control work, must persistently and consistently direct it toward solving the pressing problems of restructuring, and must become more actively involved in the struggle against existing shortcomings and for party members' pure and

honest image. The commission must submit more questions for examination by the Central Committee Bureau, must actively help the Central Committee Secretariat, and must assist local party commissions in improving and stepping up their work.

Comrades! In its practical activity, the Central Committee Bureau concentrated its efforts on improving the style and methods of party work and strove to create the necessary conditions in order to reveal party organizations' creative potential to the maximum. The forms and methods for rendering specific assistance to party committees have been enriched. Gorkom and raykom secretaries and department chiefs are regularly seconded for practical training at the Central Committee. Comprehensive inspections of party committees and primary party organizations have become the practice. This method has been used to study the activity of 57 party gorkoms and raykoms in the last 2 years alone.

At the same time, the Central Committee Bureau has still not succeeded in fully activating the entire arsenal of organizational-political means in the restructuring of party work. Elements of stage management and bureaucratism have not been fully eliminated. The quantity of directives issued to local organizations is still considerable and, consequently, there is less monitoring of their performance. Decisions are not always backed up by the necessary organizational work and fail to produce the expected results. The Central Committee's sectorial departments do not make proper use of party-political methods, often assume the functions of economic organs, and therefore fail to intensify their political influence on primary party organizations in the relevant sectors.

In a number of party organizations there is still no free exchange of opinions or comparison of different viewpoints, and criticism, self-criticism, and remarks concerning leaders are still voiced only timidly. This was shown, for example, by the recent report sessions of elected organs in Narimanovskiy, Ordzhonikidzevskiy, Nasiminskiy, Ordubadskiy, Shushinskiy, Mardakertskiy, and several other raykoms.

Many party committees find it difficult to overcome stagnation phenomena, display no initiative, and still operate in the old fashion. This was drawn to the attention of the first secretaries of Sheki party gorkom and of Imishlinskiy, Agdashskiy, Kelbadzharskiy, Apsheronskiy, Kasum-Ismailovskiy, Tauzskiy, Belokanskiy, Kyurdamirskiy, Lachinskiy, Kutkashenskiy, Masallinskiy, Pushkinskiy, Khanlarskiy, and other party raykoms during a conversation with them in the Central Committee on the eve of the report sessions.

The serious shortcomings in the activity of Mir-Bashirskiy party raykom have not been eliminated, and the Central Committee Bureau deemed its work unsatisfactory. First Secretary Comrade D. Mamedov must at long last draw the most serious conclusions and radically restructure his work, in conformity with the assurances he gave to participants in the raykom plenum.

Many local party committee leaders have still not abandoned the style of work based on pressure and edicts, eulogies, bragging, ostentation, and other obsolete habits. The majority of raykoms and gorkoms, and even party obkoms continue to take on questions which are the prerogative of soviet organs.

The time persistently demands that an end be put to such approaches. This was unambiguously declared at the meetings and plenums which heard reports from their elected organs. They engaged in open discussion of the most pressing problems, exactingly assessed the work of secretaries, and took strictly to task those who tolerate shortcomings and display bureaucratism, passiveness, parasitism, and complacency. This discussion was of great benefit for Communists and especially for leaders. Many party organizations emerged organizationally and politically stronger from the discussions of the reports. The plenums proved that most of our party committees are capable of solving the tasks of restructuring, whose complexity and importance increase further still at the present stage.

More than 800 primary and shop party organization secretaries and over 5,500 bureau and party committee members were replaced in the course of the report campaign. Twenty-seven organizations replaced all members of their bureaus and party committees. Negative assessments were made of the activity of 356 party committees, party bureaus, and primary party organizations. Party gorkom and raykom plenums voted 10 secretaries and 24 bureau members out of their bureaus and elected new ones. A number of party raykom first secretaries were relieved of their duties for failing to provide leadership of restructuring.

The Central Committee Organizational Party Work Department is the main link connecting the Central Committee and the party obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms. Everyone appreciates the major responsibility borne by this department, which is headed by Comrade N.A. Mamedov, candidate member of the Central Committee Bureau. He must steadily raise the standard of work by the department and by each and every one of its officials so that it matches up to the higher demands, and he must pay more attention to the formation and training of a cadre pool and to the strengthening of ties with local party committees and organizations. As yet, however, the department's officials have a poor knowledge of the local situation. Comrade N.A. Mamedov must step up the monitoring of party committees' activity to implement party decisions.

The necessary measures are being implemented in the republic to strengthen working people's ideological-political unity, to step up counterpropaganda work, and to counteract ideological subversion from abroad. This

important sector in our republic is looked after by Comrade Z.M. Yusif-Zade, member of the Central Committee Bureau and chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR KGB. It is important to ensure that all this work is organized in full conformity with the spirit and ideas of restructuring and of party directives.

Much work is being done within the Bureau on the military-patriotic education of working people by Comrade M.M. Zaytsev, member of the Central Committee Bureau.

Comrades! Work with cadres is assigned a key position in the organizational and political activity of the Central Committee Bureau and Secretariat. It must be noted that positive changes have taken place in the cadre corps during the period under review. The struggle against manifestations of protectionism, promotions to leadership positions on the basis of family ties, home town favoritism, or personal loyalty, and other violations of party principles of cadre policy has been intensified. A number of related officials were dismissed from leadership positions, including officials in the Central Committee apparatus, soviet and law enforcement organs, and the trade network. More than 400 officials on the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee nomenklatura have been relieved of their posts in the last 2 years, one-fourth of them for having totally failed to cope with their work.

The scale of the work done along this avenue can be judged from the fact that 93 party gorkom and raykom first secretaries, rayispolkom and gorispolkom chairmen, and leaders of ministries and departments have been changed since the CPSU Central Committee April Plenum. Eighteen of them were promoted to more responsible positions.

The practice of electing leaders is improving. Last year alone, more than 2,000 people were appointed to various leadership positions in the republic's national economy based on election and competition. A number of party raykom secretaries were elected by secret ballot from among several candidates. This work must be actively continued, with special attention being given to the qualitative training of the cadre pool. It is our duty to promote to leadership positions people who are devoted to the party, capable of running affairs in line with the demands of the time, skilled in modern management methods, and distinguished by high standards of competence and political maturity.

Fundamental importance attaches to the steady improvement of work on the party-political education, training, and retraining of our cadres. In conformity with the CPSU Central Committee resolution on the Baku Higher Party School, specific measures are being implemented to strengthen professorial and lecturer cadres, to restructure the instruction and education process and scientific work, and to improve student admission practices.

The Central Committee Bureau must give daily assistance to the Baku Higher Party School and seek to improve all aspects of the system for cadres' political training.

Today it has to be frankly admitted that we still have not managed to eliminate defects and shortcomings in cadre work. There are still frequently lack of principledness in assessing failed workers and transfers from one leadership position to another. There are instances of unjustifiably high cadre turnover, especially in the agro-industrial sector. It is intolerable that many kolkhoz and sovkhoz leaders hold office for no more than 2-3 years.

We still have raykom, gorkom, and obkom leaders, and even leaders in the Central Committee apparatus itself, who cannot abandon the edict and pressure style or the supplanting of economic managers. Consequently, they lose sight of important aspects of party work. We raise this matter with concern also because the Central Committee Bureau, owing to inadequate exactingness toward itself and party committee leaders, has also failed to overcome these shortcomings.

Party committee first secretaries bear special responsibility for the fate of restructuring. Unfortunately, by no means all of them have realized yet that success in restructuring is ensured by solving primarily social tasks and by activating the human factor. For example, the style and methods used by Comrade L. Mekhtiyev, former first secretary of the Divichinskiy party raykom, were distinguished by a superficial and formal attitude to work, an uncritical approach toward the existing serious shortcomings, and an inability to take efficient measures to eliminate them. At a recent plenum the Communists assessed him in a principled fashion and denied him their confidence.

Comrade A. Asadov, former first secretary of the Shamkhorskiy party raykom, also failed to properly head restructuring in the rayon, committed serious errors in the selection of cadres, was unfamiliar with the state of affairs on farms, was ignorant of people's moods, and employed administrative pressure methods. A raykom plenum relieved Asadov of his duties for failing to provide leadership of restructuring, and assessed the raykom bureau's work as unsatisfactory.

Serious shortcomings also affect the work of Shaumyanskiy (rural) party raykom and its first secretary, Comrade R. Mirzoyev. Raykom officials are indifferent to people's needs and tolerate arbitrariness and gross trampling of citizens' legitimate rights and interests. There has abuse by some leadership officials in the agro-industrial complex. It is not surprising that the rayon has achieved virtually no fundamental positive changes in economic and social life and does not properly rebuff abuses. All this has bred social tension and created conflicts in the rayon. Today we issue a stern warning to Comrade R.

Mirzoyev, who must fundamentally restructure the party raykom's work and his own style and methods and must seek to significantly improve affairs in the rayon.

To sum up, comrades, the Central Committee Bureau has much more to do to ensure the fundamental improvement of all cadre work in the light of the party's greater demands. [passage omitted]

Krasnoyarsk Informal Committee Viewed

PM081025 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Feb 88 Second Edition p 3

[Article by O. Shenin, first secretary of the Krasnoyarsk CPSU Kraykom, under the "We Are Learning Democracy" rubric: "In the Heat of the Argument 'Informal Groups' Often Remain Behind a Glass Wall"]

[Text] They say that there are now about 30,000 amateur associations in the country. Nor has this trend bypassed our kray, although Siberians usually react more calmly and stolidly to such epidemics: There are too many real problems in Siberia to be diverted by secondary ones. Even then we cannot perhaps apply the fashionable word "informal" to everyone. Small boys arguing about, for instance, the merits of heavy metal music or break dancing, are one thing; and adult, practised people who are actively coming out for, for instance, the cleanliness of the Baykal and the Yenisey.

But throughout the fall, when I had only just taken up the post of first secretary, I heard the most varied things about the existence in the kray of a "committee for assisting restructuring." It was mentioned in undertones, in a whisper, as something prohibited. I wanted to take a closer look at the "committee," whose actual name gave no grounds for fears and even had a banal ring. Who today would say out loud that he considers himself an enemy of changes? No one is "against," everyone is "for." The opponents are somewhere "there," round the corner, on the next street. But on our street there are only supporters....

Some of the names of the "committee's" members were familiar. Some had appealed to the kraykom to ask for their good name to be restored. Others, conversely, had stressed that nothing and no one had offended them—they were simply "offended on the authorities' behalf" and in the Siberian way had offered their firm support for the sole purpose of making the authorities stronger and purer.

For instance, the commander of a YAK-40 ship gave the address of the so-called "No 40 depot" at the central department store—"for the elite." The "No 40 depot" was immediately disbanded. But it was decided to keep the stores and order desks for the preferential sale of food once a month to war veterans, personal pensioners, and honored workers of science and culture.

Next to the ship commander was a loader at a combine plant. He had warned of scandalous practices at the plant and was dismissed...because of redundancies: "Don't issue warnings" was the message. He was reinstated as a loader only after a letter to the 27th party congress. There are more than enough problems at the combine plant. The plant's capacities are only 70 percent loaded. That means that customers have to be sought and won over by the good quality of output. It is this that reveals the leadership's real abilities (or lack of abilities) to think and act and to struggle—not against loaders but for the quality of output.

The leader of the kray architectural and construction control, reinstated to his former post last summer, joined the "committee." Yet next to him is the former rayispolkom chairman, dismissed, as he himself believes, "fairly." Or take the Krasnoyarsk forester who was once greatly offended when his large family was passed over in the allocation of an apartment, which was given to the son of one of the rayon leaders. The family had already received a five-room apartment—and it was time for the forester to set to work since there is more than enough for him to do in the Siberian taiga.

That is the extremely motley group which, of course, did not emerge out of nowhere. The desire for an active social life, for the opportunity to influence something, to be the master, is very understandable. But it sometimes seems to us that various "possessed" men of our day are feeding on it, anxious to satisfy their vanity and their self interest and subsisting on social demagoguery.

We party workers must consider both aspects of this complex process. We must not go too far where we can see something genuine. But the underestimation of latter-day "possession" is also dangerous. That is why, in talking with representatives of the "committee," we decided to take the most attentive look at the questions raised. It emerged that the "committee for assisting restructuring" is saying nothing new. Rather it is lagging behind restructuring and repeating things it has not found out for itself.... "The dominion of bureaucrats?" The radical reform is also aimed against it. The need to normalize the power apparatus? But even the members of the "committee" believe that today practically all questions raised in their letters and within the competence of the kray organs have been done away with, eliminated. Other measures have also been taken to assert social justice. For instance, the deputies' hall at "Krasnoyarsk" airport and the krayispolkom hotel have been made over as kindergartens and the No 2 kray hospital in central Krasnoyarsk will accommodate a maternity home. And we do not intend to stop, we are planning far more difficult things for the agenda of the party kraykom's work, and we are speaking of them unflinchingly.

The example of the new apartment block on Sayanskaya Street is indicative. N. Shamrin, chairman of the Sverdlovskiy Rayispolkom, promised to repair it and did not

fulfill his promise on time. Then the inhabitants, having heard of the "committee's" existence, sent a letter to it. The "committee" passed the letter on to the kraykom—the apartment block was repaired. Are we to credit the "committee" with this victory or reproach the relevant idlers or promise-breakers for their lack of initiative? There cannot be two answers. I see the way out of this vicious circle in the consolidation of the role of the soviets and the economic autonomy of enterprises and departments. But this will not happen automatically, but in living work with people. The law of the well—the deeper you draw, the purer the water—operates here.

So why trouble this water again? If you keep looking behind you as you walk you will fall into a new abyss before long. Far from everyone understands this danger and they are continuing carefully to prepare yesterday's errors. A graphic example is the dismissal of the editor of the kray newspaper, KRASNOYARSKIY RABOCHIY, who had slackened his leadership of the collective. The same fate befell the CPSU kraykom administrative organs department chief. But the most clamorous members of the "committee" are claiming that it was only at their insistence that these leaders were subject to party sanctions. They lose no opportunity to enhance their reputation.

The diagnosis of this illness was made by one of the "committee's" members who compared himself with...a fish released from an aquarium. The glass wall has disappeared yet it is still swimming round in circles...

An apt comparison. If you go round the circle of yesterday's errors—your own and other people's—for too long, there will, I repeat, not be enough time left for looking ahead. I think that this "aquarium fish syndrome" can also be observed at many levels of administration which should be bolder in destroying the wall of incomprehension between "these" and "those." The inability to talk with people leads to many of our shortcomings in ideological work.

We gave a principled assessment of negative phenomena in the activity of the "committee" in the recent party kraykom bureau resolution.

Our party resolution on "informal groups" did not go unnoticed. It is being discussed in party organizations and it is being talked about. The fact that instead of "economic" conversations" the party kraykom is giving a political assessment of the occurrence looks too unexpected. But it is precisely the point that we now see our task primarily in political leadership. You only have to turn the matter in this, the only correct direction, and the obvious will become clear: It is the party which launched restructuring, not the observers from "committees." It was the party members who set about acting, and not merely assisting restructuring, as the "committee for assisting" have printed on their banner...

But let's return to what is being said about our resolution. Here is the opinion of Alitet Nemtushkin, secretary of the party organization of Krasnoyarsk writers—creative people with, I would say, a special feeling for untruth:

"The time has come to reappraise our values, and to reappraise ourselves. That is the hardest thing. It is easier to judge others—to cite their shortcomings, to show them up, as they say. For some people abusing others is even a pleasure. These people rise in their own estimation and seem to themselves to be bolder, to be socially active. But often this is the purest demagoguery. Each of us must be clear about what a responsibility it is to criticize and judge. After all, often, in discussing our past and seeking to punish the culprits, people speak as though they themselves did not live at that time on our sinful land. And you notice that they demand that the culprits be dealt with by the same methods which have been denounced and which are leading us into an impasse. Grievances acquire the blatant coloring of vengeance. But that is obviously not the essence of spiritual cleansing. Restructuring is distinguished by the very fact that it enables each person to remake himself and to become an active builder of life.

Yes, we have neglected, disregarded, and kept quiet about a lot in our country. Even today there is still a great deal which is impeding matters and giving rise to idle words. But the ice has broken, as they say. That can only be denied by someone who cannot see or who does not want to look deeply. It is here that our readiness, our ability, not to tag along behind events, and especially not to act merely on instructions from various "committees" comes to the fore, as does our ability not to be guided in our work by excuses but by an active, assertive stance—the line from which we will not deviate.

Lukonin Denies Radioactive Waste Dumping

LD111945 Moscow World Service in English 1600 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] The Soviet Minister of Nuclear Power Engineering, Nikolay Lukonin, has described as groundless the allegations by the Turkish press that this country dumps radioactive waste into the Black Sea.

He told a Radio Moscow reporter that the work of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, that suffered an accident in April 1986, is now fully under control. Regular water probes are taken in the Kiev water reservoir and in the lower reaches of the Dnepr River flowing into the Black Sea. The checkups show there are absolutely no grounds for anxiety. No radioactive waste is dumped into the Dnepr. The power plant personnel receive radiation doses that are three times lower than the international norm and are to be further reduced this year.

USSR Ready to Rejoin World Psychiatrists' Group
LD111539 Moscow TASS in English 1535 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow February 11 TASS—Soviet medics are prepared to resume work in the World Association of Psychiatrists if the latter stops serving political aims, it was stated by the chief psychiatrist of the USSR Ministry of Public Health Aleksandr Churkin. He answered questions from journalists at a press conference held here today.

Churkin recalled that Soviet physicians had left the association exactly because its leadership had toed the line of people who were using the association for ideological confrontation. "Besides," he said, "We object to the voting system when a country that pays a big due possesses more votes. This is not democratic. Each member should have one vote."

Replying to questions about "dissidents" who according to Western propaganda are "victims of psychiatry" Churkin said that such allegations pursue the aim of fanning up mistrust in the USSR. "Soviet doctors have repeatedly invited foreign colleagues to come to the Soviet Union and observe such patients," he said. "We are prepared to receive them at any time for a serious professional discussion, but the United States Department of Health, for instance, replied that American pyschiatrists are not interested in such issues."

Psychiatric Regulations Effective 1 Mar
LD111458 Moscow TASS in English 1438 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow February 11 TASS—The new regulations for terms and order of rendering psychiatric aid in the USSR will come into force as of March 1 this year, Aleksandr Churkin, chief psychiatrist of the USSR health Ministry, told newsmen today.

The new regulations are a reflection of the process of ensuring more democracy in Soviet society. They create reliable guarantees of the least restrictive conditions for the maintenance of patients in mental hospitals. The regulations provide for the judicial remedy, legality control by procuracy and assistance of defense lawyers for ensuring the rights of mental patients. A patient and his relatives may complain against any actions and conclusions by psychiatrists.

The institution of chief psychiatrists of cities, districts, and regions is introduced independent from the management of mental institutions. On top of that, non-professional control is introduced on the part of the local bodies of power.

Compulsory treatment of mental patients perpetrating socially dangerous actions will be now done at psychiatric institutions of the Health Ministry. In that connection special type hospitals are taken out of the administration of the organs of internal affairs and are placed under health protection organs.

Churkin noted that the regulations embracing all aspects of medical aid to people suffering from mental disorders, protection of their rights and measures for the protection of society from dangerous actions by mental patients have for the first time been adopted in the USSR.

New Panel To Act on Medical Malpractice
PM101535 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Feb 88 Second Edition p 1

[Interview with Colonel General F. Komarov, chairman of the USSR Health Ministry Higher Certification Commission, by own correspondent Ye. Agapova under the rubric "Dialogue Over the Telephone": "If the Hippocratic Oath Is Broken..."—first paragraph is KRASNAYA ZVEZDA introduction]

[Text] A Higher Certification Commission has been established at the USSR Health Ministry. Col Gen F. Komarov, chief of the USSR Ministry of Defense Central Military Medicine Directorate Medical Service and academician of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences, has been appointed its chairman. Our correspondent called him at the Central Military Medicine Directorate.

[Agapova] Fedor Ivanovich, so another commission has been set up. What is the reason for its emergence today, when we are trying to combat bureaucracy in every way?

[Komarov] This is a special commission. It has been established in response to very pressing social problems, which is absolutely uncharacteristic of bureaucracy. We are not likely to achieve restructuring in the medical service without a certain "purge."

[Agapova] Does this mean that the Higher Certification Commission will combat ignorance in the medical profession?

[Komarov] You are quite right. But it will combat not only ignorance but also criminal negligence and the indifference of certain members of the medical profession who do not deserve this title. We will bring to book people who have broken the Hippocratic Oath and forfeited their moral right to heal people. The Higher Certification Commission includes such prominent doctors and scientists as N. Amosov, M. Kuzin, A. Vorobyev, and others and also representatives of public organizations. We have been given great powers. If, for instance, the Higher Certification Commission comes to

the conclusion that a higher medical educational establishment is turning out poor cadres, we can raise the question of closing the establishment down. The commission can also declare a medical practitioner unfit to occupy his post.

[Agapova] This is long overdue! Many readers have raised this question when confronted with flaws in the work of the medical profession...

[Komarov] At our first session we discussed two scandalous cases. The first involved total ignorance and absolute indifference on the part of a group of doctors in Kokchetav, leading to the death of a 6-year-old girl. The Higher Certification Commission deemed it necessary to put two doctors on 6 months' probation and recommended that pediatrician P. Chuyenko be transferred to work which does not involve treating the sick. In another sad case a 16-year-old youth died. He was admitted to a Tashkent hospital with bleeding. I am ashamed to say that the doctors tried to stop up the wound...with a fist. One of the medics on duty was drunk. The surgeon operated on the casualty in the absence of proper conditions and facilities. The Higher Certification Commission concluded that these medics are not fit to occupy their posts.

[Agapova] It would do no harm if medics such as those you have described were struck off....

[Komarov] Unfortunately, until the legal aspects of this question are sorted out and legislation to this effect is drawn up, we cannot deprive medical practitioners who have besmirched their professional honor of their diplomas. However, this is a matter of the near future. After all, such bad practitioners do exist even among the military medics. We dismiss them from the Armed Services, yet we have no right to deprive them of their diplomas. Where is the logic here?

[Agapova] Does this mean that the work of the Higher Certification Commission will also fully apply to military medics?

[Komarov] A Higher Certification Commission has now also been established at the Central Military Medicine Directorate and is already getting down to work. It has the same powers and the same aims—eradicating routine in medicine.

Agencies Confer on Combating Drug Abuse

PM101523 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Feb 88 Second Edition p 6

[G. Ovcharenko report under the rubric "In the USSR Prosecutor's Office": "Forced to be a Drug Addict"]

[Text] In Riga a group of dealers and drug manufacturers tied someone up and forcibly injected him with their stupefacient. This fact was heard yesterday at the USSR Prosecutor's Office, which was the scene of a coordination conference of union law enforcement organs at which questions of the struggle against drug addiction were discussed.

In recent years quite a lot has been done in this direction. Thus in the 1st 11 months of last year the number of drug-related crimes in the country declined by more than 30 percent. The positive improvements are the result of changes and additions to legislative acts which made it possible to more actively stop the spread and abuse of drugs, of the creation of special subdivisions in internal affairs organs to combat drug addiction, of the emergence of new addiction treatment establishments and therapeutic labor clinics, and of the improvement of preventive work at enterprises, VUZ's, vocational and technical schools, and schools.

But in some regions the problem remains acute. Thus in the Latvian SSR last year drug-related crime tripled. It is typical that one in three persons against whom criminal proceedings were brought for these crimes had previous convictions, and one in five persons was not working or studying. The number of drug thefts in the republic doubled. The growth of drug addiction and toxin abuse among minors is causing particular concern. Whereas in 1986 2.2 percent of drug addicts identified in Latvia were under 18 years old, last year the number was 32.6 percent. The statistic for minors is about the same in a number of other regions. So it is all the more incomprehensible that officials of the Komsomol Central Committee did not take part in the meeting's work, although they were sent an invitation....

It is well known that the majority of criminals who make fortunes from drug abuse do not themselves use drugs. But they go to any lengths to expand the market for the "white poison" and to lure more and more young people into the drug maelstrom. They use any methods—from free distribution of the first doses of poison to violence, as in Riga.

It must be admitted that the struggle against those who prey on immature souls is still not very effective. Moreover, the sluggishness of law enforcement organs in certain regions, particularly in the south, the carelessness of a number of economic managers, who cultivate narcotic crops on unprotected land, the chinks in the customs services, addiction centers' poor scientific and material base, and insufficient preventive work—all this plays into the hands of the criminals.

Much has been said and written about the need to establish administrative and criminal liability for illegally sowing opium poppies, for the use of narcotic substances without a medical prescription, and for failing to take appropriate measures to protect narcotic crops and the places where they are processed, to establish criminal liability for involving minors in toxin abuse, and to develop an efficient procedure for the compulsory examination and treatment of drug addicts.

Such proposals have been submitted to legislative organs. But for some reason they are not hurrying to examine and adopt these undoubtedly essential measures. Meanwhile the criminal fishers of men are spreading new nets of drug addiction....

The conference at the USSR Prosecutor's Office formulated an interdepartmental plan for coordinated measures to fulfill the CPSU Central Committee resolutions on stepping up the struggle against drug addiction and supervision of this work by the Prosecutor's Office.

Estonian Foreign Minister on Anti-Soviet Acts
LD110001 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 10 Feb 88

[Text] In recent times, various foreign radio voices have been stepping up their attempts to drive a wedge between the peoples of our country. The Baltic republics form one of the bridgeheads for this radio aggression. The broadcasts beamed to our country talk about the existence of certain groups and even parties that aim to prove the so-called illegality of the reunification of Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia with the Soviet Union. Who are these people? What are these so-called organizations? Replies to these questions were given today at the USSR Foreign Ministry press center by Comrade Gren, Estonia's minister of foreign affairs.

[Begin recording] Several such groups have been created among us recently. One is the Estonian Group for the Publication of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact. It consists of 13 people. The group has already renamed itself. They now call themselves the founders of some new Independence Party. They are one and the same people. Most of them even lack a full secondary education. Many of them do not work anywhere. You may ask: What do they live on?

In Sweden, for example, a center has been set up to provide assistance to Estonian political prisoners, even though there are now only two Estonians who are in prison, if one can put it that way, for anti-Soviet activity or for anti-Soviet propaganda work. They are (Tarto) and (Netlyus). That's all. Can it be necessary to have a special center in Sweden to provide assistance to two people? Of course not! Last year, they sent approximately R30,000, and these sums are actually used for working, living and organizing anti-Soviet work. [sentence as heard] Of course, these people are now trying to make use of the process of democratization and the opportunity for speaking openly. They are trying to incite various nationalistic sentiments. But I must tell you that they have no particular support among the population. On the contrary, people are now speaking out and are even demanding that those people should be punished, although no repressive measures have been taken against them. Now I must also make the point that these voices say that people are repressed, that various measures are being adopted, that people are being imprisoned, and so on and so forth. All that is incorrect. In Tartu, when a group of young hooligans—on 2 February, when a lively discussion was taking place in an auditorium—started to throw stones at store windows, eight people there were detained and they were punished; they were placed under arrest for 10 days. But I think that, in any country, hooligans have to be taken in hand. [end recording]

[Announcer] Well now, I think it's becoming clear whom the West is trying to pass off as politicians and whom it is trying to pass off as a political phenomenon.

Sakharov, Others Comment on Afghan Withdrawal
PM110928 Paris LE MONDE in French 10 Feb 88 p 4

[Special envoy dispatch: "Hopes and Reservations in Moscow"]

[Text] Moscow—Three Soviet intellectuals with differing views have given us their initial impressions of Mr Gorbachev's proposal.

Academician Andrey Sakharov, who was exiled to Gorkiy in 1980 for protesting the intervention in Afghanistan—an exile from which Mr Gorbachev released him in December 1986, said: "This is a very important, constructive, and serious proposal. This is the first time that Mikhail Gorbachev has put forward specific dates. We now have great hope that this tragic chapter in our history can be closed.... I think that it is particularly important that he is not linking the withdrawal of the troops to the formation of a government coalition in Kabul, and that he envisages calling for UN forces."

Historian Roy Medvedev said: "I do not think there will be agreement in Geneva. I do not think that the Western countries are prepared to stop giving aid to the Afghan resistance. In addition, China and Iran have not said anything. I am not very optimistic.... Of course, everybody wants a withdrawal, particularly the Soviet leadership. But conditions are not right and the Western countries are not prepared to accept them."

Lev Timofeyev, former political prisoner released in February 1987, and chief editor of independent bulletin REFERENDUM, said: "All the details relating to the conflict, particularly how it started, must first be openly and honestly revealed to Soviet society. Gorbachev's statement is a long way from doing that. We also think that a peaceful settlement on Afghanistan's independence must be implemented under international supervision. Gorbachev is talking about appealing to UN forces, but without going into detail. If he is serious about that, then it is a very constructive proposal and we are prepared to support it."

Journalist Demands Monument to 'Repressed'
PM110936 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 10 Feb 88 p 12

[Letter from Viktor Kurochkin, editor of the newspaper KOMSOMOLETS ZABAYKALYA, on "Readers' Letters" page: "We Remember"]

[Text] Chita—We were pleased to read Yu. Shchekochikhin'sreport in LITERATURNAYA GAZETA (20 January of this year) about the setting up in Moscow of an initiative group "For the Perpetuation of the Memory of Victims of the Repressions." I wish to report to LITERATURNAYA GAZETA's readers that in Chita the role of such a group has been assumed by the newspaper KOMSOMOLETS ZABAYKALYA.

Our newspaper first published an item headed "We Need a Monument to the Victims of Repressions" on 23 October 1987. The article said, in particular: "The idea has been put forward of erecting a monument in Chita to the victims of repressions. It must be out of the people's money. If a collection is announced, I am sure people will respond...."

The editorial office was swamped with responses. The majority are in favor of a monument to the innocent victims of repressions. "...It is time to open a bank account into which money for a monument could be paid"—this appeal is made in a letter from students at the Chita teacher training institute, signed by 255 people.

The Komsomol Obkom Bureau examined the question of "The Article 'We Need a Monument to the Victims of Repressions.'" The subject was deemed worthy of attention.

But we are convinced that erecting a monument in Chita is not enough, especially since the organs here will not—I am sure!—risk taking the first step. It is time to set up an all-union fund for a monument to the victims of Stalin's repressions. The time has come!

Television Head Outlines Program Plans
PM081531 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jan 88 Second Edition p 3

["Interview at the Request of Television Viewers" with L. Kravchenko, first deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting, by unnamed correspondent: "We Will Not Take a Break"; place, date not given]

[Text] PRAVDA's mail contains many letters devoted to television. Readers ask questions connected with its further development. Our correspondent met with L. Kravchenko, first deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting directly responsible for television, and asked him to answer them.

[Correspondent] Leonid Petrovich, our readers point out that an appreciable restructuring has been taking place in Central Television in recent years. How do you yourself assess these processes?

[Kravchenko] We have clearly understood that under the conditions of the restructuring under way in all spheres of our society urgent measures are also needed to restructure television. Frankly speaking, stagnation phenomena have affected it to a considerable degree too. Therefore, the collective has embarked on a resolute renewal of television programs. I believe we have already succeeded in doing something. Today, in my view, it is hard to imagine a television day without programs such as "120 Minutes," "Before and After Midnight," "View," "Searchlight on Restructuring," television linkups, "Meetings in Ostankino," "Problems, Searches, Solutions," "Response," "Parents' Day—Saturday," "Good Evening, Moscow!" and others. Who could have believed only 2 years ago that Soviet and U.S. parliamentarians would be holding heated debates right on the air or that U.S. President R. Reagan, British Prime Minister M. Thatcher, or F. Strauss, who is known for his conservative views, would be appearing on our television? All this is not even surprising now.

The restructuring processes in television can to some extent be expressed in figures. For example, the number of direct open transmissions has increased more than 20-fold, and television broadcasting has been renewed by almost 35 percent, with "long-running" broadcasts being replaced by programs that are more modern in both form and content.

In my view, restructuring is more noticeable in television journalism. What do I mean here? On the "Vremya" program and also in the majority of other sociopolitical broadcasts, news ostentation, bland features on production topics and glorification are giving way to a problem-centered discussion, critical analysis and the emotional breath of life. True, even today we still encounter superficial reportages, routine interviews, and numerous official reports. But a shift has occurred—it is a shift toward acute topical questions of concern to people. Television is paying more sensitive heed to so-called "sore" problems. This is noticeable, above all, in the extensive coverage of social problems, which previously were simply ignored. Housing, work and wages, pensions, medical services, the working of transport and consumer services, public catering—all of this is now in our field of vision. We are learning to speak about "sore" problems honestly, openly, and sincerely—in the spirit of the lessons in truth which the 27th CPSU Congress taught us all.

Of course, we are not yet managing to do everything the way we would like to, but we now understand the need to make better use of television's amazing potential. For example, it possesses absolute pitch with regard to the truth. Television does not have the right to sing out of tune, and its voice must be confiding, for it comes into

our home, our apartment, our family. Announcers, moderators, and commentators are becoming our good acquaintances. How do they look and behave, how do they speak, are they intelligent? Do they find the requisite confiding key? All this is very important, and so responsible! To whom in television do we entrust the right to be in the shot and be our intermediary? Then you see how much still has to be done in order not to disappoint television viewers.

Television possesses splendid technical merits. With its help it is possible to be at one and the same minute both in space and on another continent—present at an event the moment it happens. This "effect of being there" and being up-to-the-minute has a colossal impact. Therefore we are thinking of making more frequent use of direct open transmissions and further expanding "live" broadcasting. Satellite broadcasting systems now embrace the whole world. Yet direct air means a problem of trust. Believe your own eyes—this is the secret behind the success of any broadcast which transports us great distances and makes us witnesses to events.

In general, there is one main precept which must be followed constantly: Television, like life itself, requires continuous renewal. We must not stop even for 6 months and say to ourselves: Enough of questing, let us take a break. Psychology operates here—a person quickly gets accustomed to everything. What amazed him yesterday no longer gladdens him today. Eternal dissatisfaction with ourselves—this is the formula by which we workers in television must be guided. Then there will be less dissatisfaction with us on the viewers' part.

[Correspondent] An interesting formula. But if you really use it, it is reasonable to ask: What new things can be expected on television in the new year, 1988?

[Kravchenko] The changes are connected chiefly with a more accurate awareness of what people expect of us and what society requires of us. The USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting has its own sociological service. It not only analyzes letters but also carries out research. I will point out that the number of letters to us has increased by half a million over the year. How many intelligent, sensible suggestions and friendly wishes you find in these letters!

I will single out three important areas. The first is the showing of restructuring, the key to which is the democratization of society's life in conjunction with radical economic reform. Several new cycles of broadcasts have been introduced in this area. They include "Fundamentals of Economic Knowledge," "On Paths of Radical Reform," "We Study Democracy," "Pulse," "Engineers Club," and some others.

The second is more accurate regard for the interests and needs of the various social groups and sections in our society. Attention to children and young people will be stepped up. Special programs for women and pensioners are appearing for the first time—"Modern Woman," "If You Are Over...," and "Domestic Academy." The program "Our Duties" is devoted to problems of orphan children and the social status of disabled people. We also remember those who are unable to enjoy television because they have lost their hearing. Approximately 18 million viewers now join in watching the "Vremya" program and "Searchlight on Restructuring" with the help of a special transcript. There will be an increase in the number of broadcasts of this kind.

Another area is that of education. A program consisting of a collection of popular scientific and cognitive broadcasts has been introduced on the second channel. In conjunction with a block of educational broadcasts they will, so it seems to us, help to considerably strengthen television's mission of enlightenment and broaden its potential as an electronic mentor.

[Correspondent] You have not yet said anything about artistic broadcasting, and yet, by all accounts, it has not undergone as many appreciable changes as television journalism has. Is this not so?

[Kravchenko] The conclusion is correct. I wish to emphasize, not by way of justification but in explanation, that the restructuring of artistic broadcasting requires more time. For it sometimes takes years to make new movies and productions. Nevertheless, complaints about the artistic merits of a number of literary, theater, and music programs are fair. True, changes for the better are noticeable in the showing of movies. There is more agreement now between the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting and the State Committee for Cinematography. In the past year we have obtained many outstanding, talented movies for showing, both feature and documentary movies.

A few words about television theater. Decisive steps have been taken to organize the preparation of our own television and movie productions. We are hoping to expand the showing of productions created in the country's local theaters. We estimate that we will be able to show two productions per week.

I will specially discuss music programs. We have rightly been criticized, including in PRAVDA, for being too keen on rock music. This is an acute and complex problem. Parents in many families are worried about teenagers' predilection for rock. School, books, and sport take a back seat, certain television viewers note. This is a real problem, and results in a lack of spirituality. So we have a responsibility. What's the solution? A simple ban will be no help. We are convinced that rock must be squeezed out by high-quality melodies. Television must be used to help raise general musical standards. We said to ourselves: We've spent enough time blaming the Composers Union, the Ministry of Culture, the trade

unions, and the Komsomol. Television must more boldly become the center for the creation of modern songs and youth music. We must select and propagandize the best examples.

Our deliberations resulted in the organization of the All-Union Youth Song Contest in Yurmala, the television soldiers' song contest, and now, in addition, the "Hope" song contest. We have started up the cycle of "Play, Accordion!" broadcasts, which has elicited a great response. We have brought back to the television screen songs performed by their writers. The music editorial board has proposed several new program cycles for the new year at once.

[Correspondent] There is another sphere of television broadcasting that gives cause for concern—international broadcasts. Their quality is not always satisfactory.

[Kravchenko] We realize this ourselves. Television linkups would seem to be an interesting form, but they are not always successful. Not to mention "roundtables" and press conferences. We are frequently late with news, we skate over the surface of events, and we overcome established stereotypes of thinking with difficulty. Of course, we are not sitting with our arms folded. We have set up a new Central Television Main International Life Editorial Board, and editions of "In the World Today" are being made in an "improved" version. A cycle of programs on popular politicians of the world is being prepared—"Who's Who: Political Profile." It is planned to have 36 television linkups this year. The permanent rubric "Problem in Focus" has been premiered.

[Correspondent] But thinking up a new rubric or a new form still does not ensure a higher quality of broadcasting, does it?

[Kravchenko] Indeed, a new form still does not guarantee success. But everything depends here on the professional skill of the scriptwriters, editors, and directors. Television is figuratively called the "x-ray of the personality." It possesses the amazing quality of "looking through" people. An intelligent, attractive person in the shot is a decisive condition for creating an interesting program. We have an acute shortage of bright personalities and talented moderators and commentators in the television medium today, and, on the whole, there is a shortage of skilled cadres. Television programs are created by representatives of approximately 70 trades. There are professions—more than 10 of them—for which not a single educational institution in the country trains cadres. They study and learn again only in practice, or in our own institute for raising qualifications.

[Correspondent] What is of greatest concern to you?

[Kravchenko] To make a confession, this is what concerns me. There is a good creative atmosphere in television today. Much that is interesting is being thought up, but there is insufficient depth of ideas, depth of analysis, and brilliance of execution. Certain programs, even popular ones, bear the imprint of haste. There are various reasons, but I will single out one in particular. This is the lack of modern technical means. We frequently divide up studios, editing systems, and film cameras as though under a rationing system. True, vigorous efforts have been made recently to rectify the situation. So let us be optimists!

New Lenin Documentary 'Extremely Honest'

LD110906 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0100 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] A new documentary film, Recalling Ilich, tells about Vladimir Ilich Lenin, the communist and person, his high party-mindedness and sense of principle. A public viewing was held on 10 February at the All-Union Soyuzinformkino Association. The making of such a film, extremely honest and frank, was impossible just a few years ago. It contains material and documents, access to which until recently was closed. Thus, the viewers will see for the first time entire photographs of sessions of the Sovnarkom [Soviet of People's Commissars], sessions of the VTSIK, [All-Russian Central Executive Committee], and congresses of the Comintern. Previously, only fragments of them were published. The film makes wide use of the reminiscences of not only the comrades-in-arms, friends, and intimates of Lenin, but also his political opponents. The picture, which was made at the Central Documentary Films Studio, is being released for showing.

Economic

Aganbegyan Expects 'Difficult, Painful' Years

PM120941 Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 2 Feb 88 Section 3 p 2

[Interview with Soviet economist Abel Aganbegyan by Asmund Willersrud: "Painful Years Await the Soviet Union"]

[Text] Moscow—Unemployment and talk of price rises are worrying the Soviet people. But there is no reason for this concern. So claims Mikhail Gorbachev's economic adviser and reform architect, Abel Gezevich Aganbegyan, in this interview with SVENSKA DAGBLADET.

"We will never allow unemployment, and if there are price rises on meat and milk people will be compensated for them," he said.

But the next 3 years will be difficult and painful, Aganbegyan admitted. Nevertheless, there is no alternative to perestroyka; on that everyone is agreed. Indeed, there are conflicting views, but only on questions of detail. There is no political opposition in the Soviet Union.

Aganbegyan is considered to be the most influential Soviet economist alongside Tatyana Zaslavskaya, his colleague from Novosibirsk.

Aganbegyan himself firmly asserts that the Western press exaggerates his role:

"In actual fact we are a group of 10-15 people. Gorbachev does not have just one, two, or three advisers; he has a broad network of contacts."

Aganbegyan arrives in Stockholm today, and tomorrow he will address SVENSKA DAGBLADET's Executive Club.

[Willersrud] Abel Gezevich, you have stated several times that the human factor is the basic problem in perestroyka. As far as I am able to understand, this means winning the individual's enthusiasm for the cause and seeing to his welfare. There are now several things to indicate that this "human factor" has become worried about /two effects/ of the reforms—price rises and the specter of unemployment [Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 3 February publishes on page 45 a considerably shorter version of the same interview. Slantlines indicate where AFTENPOSTEN is significantly different from this version. Here AFTENPOSTEN has /two seemingly alarming effects/]. Are these difficulties which the Soviet people will have to put up with for perestroyka to succeed?

[Aganbegyan] No, that is not correct. We do want to implement a price reform, but we do not want to reduce people's living standards. We have still not decided whether we will raise the prices of meat and dairy products, which we are now selling at a great loss to the state. In the state stores a kilo of meat costs R1.80, but there is a R3 subsidy here. In 1986 subsidies on meat and milk alone cost R57 billion. This must be compared with total state budget revenue of R430 billion.

If prices are raised now the people will be given full compensation, in that when wages are fixed, account will be taken of the fact that the subsidies have been removed. What is already decided is that the price reform will be carried through democratically. It will be made public in the press and it will be possible for the public to discuss it. But we have still not learned properly how we must work under glasnost and in accordance with democratic principles. This is the reason people are worried, but there is no basis for their worries.

As far as unemployment is concerned, we will never allow it in the Soviet Union. We are now in a period when we are feeling the demographic effects of the war years. In total we will be short of 20 million workers in the next three 5-year plans, compared with the period 1971-85. There is a risk of something very different—namely, a shortage of labor.

That is why we must move manpower from one area to another where the needs are greater. It is not unemployment but the poor exploitation of the manpower we have that is a threat. This is the reason why we recently adopted a resolution on the more effective exploitation of manpower.

[Willersrud] High figures of 15-20 million short-term unemployed [tidvis arbetsloesa] have been mentioned. Does this tally with your views?

[Aganbegyan] The /approximate/ figure with which we are working is 16 million [AFTENPOSTEN has: /exact/]. This is people who find themselves without work and who must be retrained and transferred to other areas. It is not unemployment, but it covers people who now have strenuous jobs underground or monotonous manual tasks.

[Willersrud] Why has the price reform not been carried through in parallel with this year's industrial reform? Is there not a contradiction in the fact that 60 percent of state enterprises have gone over to khozraschet—that is, self-management and self-financing—while their results are measured in the old, unrealistic prices?

[Aganbegyan] That is correct; the contradiction is very clear. But what we have here is a transitional phase for the reform. I would also like to point to two other questions that are no less complicated. /Without the price reform we cannot begin to market capital goods [insatsvaror] and consequently make the transition from centrally controlled distribution to a market./ [AFTENPOSTEN has: /Without the price reform we cannot introduce a market for capital goods and make the transition from the centrally controlled distribution to wholesale./] The third contradiction is that we are now making the transition to a new form of form of management in the middle of a 5-year plan drawn up on the basis of a different system.

We were aware of these contradictions, but decided not to wait for another 3 years. We decided on a transition period so that people can learn to work under self-management. Of course this will not be a perfect system. We will not make as much progress as we will under the next 5-year plan, when everything will be more balanced. Nevertheless, we are significantly increasing factories' self-management. They are gradually being brought into the new system.

We realize the next 3 years will be very difficult, indeed, painful. Nevertheless, they give us an opportunity to prepare for the future. The price reform will be carried out 1989-90. /Next year 30 percent of capital goods will be sold on the free market, 1990 percent [sentence as published]./ [AFTENPOSTEN has: /Next year 30 percent of the means of production will be sold on the free market, in 1990 60 percent./] Only under the next 5-year plan covering the years 1991-1995 will the new mechanism function 100 percent.

[Willersrud] Yet another contradiction in the work of reform is to do with the level of orders from the state, of "goszakazy," under the new reform. They tie up getting on for 90 percent of the production of state factories. Critical Soviet economists consider that this limits the freedom of individual planning and self-management.

[Aganbegyan] In the future, when the new economic mechanisms are working together with a new price system and wholesale trade, state orders will be of secondary significance. After 1991 I think they will be under 30 percent. The question is: How much can they be reduced by this year? I think it is possible to come down from 90 percent to 70 percent. In the government commission for perestroyka we decided a few days ago that state orders must come down next year.

[Willersrud] What will you do with Gosplan, the huge state planning bureau?

[Aganbegyan] First and foremost, it will be cut by a third. We have no use for so large a planning organization any more. Gosplan will be given new tasks and will no longer devote its time to the details in planning, but to larger strategic questions in the economic field. As overall coordinator Gosplan's role will grow, but a whole branch will be lopped off.

[Willersrud] The new law on state enterprises opens up the possibility of closing down unprofitable enterprises. Will this be applied in practice and, if so, how many plants will be closed?

[Aganbegyan] This part of the law presupposes that the new prices have come into force. Many of the loss-making factories are unprofitable precisely because of the pricing system. The whole of the coal industry, for example, is operating at a loss because the price of coal is too low in relation to the world market. Some 13 percent of all state enterprises are unprofitable, and I believe that in half these cases this is due to prices.

Now we have been given a chance and the ministries have gotten down to work on every unprofitable factory. They are trying to give them a new profile, merge them with other enterprises, or completely reconstruct them. Taking a realistic view, I think that only a few factories will be closed. But times will be very tough. If you do not work hard enough, your wages will be cut, no banks will lend you the capital you need, the director will be replaced, and the factory will be given a new profile. Only if none of this helps, as a final way out, is the factory closed.

/On what do I base all this? We have studied how the bankruptcy laws in Hungary and Poland work in practice, and it has emerged that only a few state enterprises disappear. I myself think that the law should be applied more widely, but I do not think that this will be allowed./ [AFTENPOSTEN has: /Why do I say this? Because we have studied the practice under the bankruptcy laws in Hungary and Poland, and it emerges that only a few state enterprises go to the wall. I do not agree with such a practice, I think that this should be implemented on a broader basis and be typical, not unusual. Nevertheless, I think that they will not allow it./]

[Willersrud] In the last 2 years the Soviet state's coffers have suffered real losses, as a result, for example, of the fact that alcohol sales have fallen. Will this be compensated for by increased taxation?

[Aganbegyan] There are two main reasons for these losses. The first is that the production and sales of alcohol have fallen by 50 percent in the last 2 years. This represents a fall in income of R11 billion a year. The other reason is the deterioration in the balance of payments with other countries because of falling prices, principally for oil.

We will compensate for these falls by increasing the production of consumer goods and developing public services for which the consumers must pay. This system has already produced results. Service industries have increased by 12 percent in 1987.

But we have not succeeded in achieving a corresponding increase for a broad range of goods on offer, and as a result we have a financial imbalance. This is a very serious problem. Taxes are no solution for us. An increase in taxation would be in conflict with our new social policy. We must find another way out.

[Willersrud] To what extent do you reckon on positive effects on the budget from nuclear disarmament? First, are there any such effects that are immediate, or is it the case that the economic gains from the policy of disarmament only come when you tackle conventional arms? Second, how great would the economic gains be from a Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan?

[Aganbegyan] We are very interested in disarmament, both strategic and conventional, and of course not only for economic reasons. But it is clear that disarmament helps us to solve social problems and facilitates technical and scientific development. Despite this we are prepared to give some of what we save from disarmament to /less developed countries./ [AFTENPOSTEN has: /less developed countries, and not simply keep it for ourselves./].

There is a much more important reason for disarmament than the economic reason, namely, security and people's lives. But during the disarmament process foreign trade develops, and this naturally means economic advantages.

The first important step toward total disarmament, the INF Treaty, covers 4 percent of total nuclear potential. So it is no big thing economically. Nevertheless, it will surely add hundreds of millions to the economy—money which will be used for peaceful ends.

Of course the decision to discuss a 50-percent cut in strategic arms is much more important. It will give ten times more. We honestly believe we will achieve such an agreement before President Reagan comes here this year. Of course, we are also interested in conventional disarmament.

Not least, we have a strong interest in bring home our troops from Afghanistan, /not only for economic reasons./ [AFTENPOSTEN has: /but not because of the economic advantages./] We are afraid for our children. In 2 years' time my own son will go into the Army, and I do not want him to be sent to Afghanistan to fight. This is not only true of me. No parent wants his children to be killed there.

We want to withdraw our troops, but then the arms aid to the Mujahidin from Pakistan must cease. We have already announced a date, but want the withdrawal to happen as soon as possible. Economically this would mean certain gains, but not as much as the cut in strategic arms. War must never be discussed purely from the economic viewpoint. [AFTENPOSTEN version ends here]

[Willersrud] Abel Gezevich, it is well-known that there are disagreements within the political leadership in Moscow about the pace and content of the policy of reform. Do these disagreements also exist among economists?

[Aganbegyan] If there are two economists in the same room, then there are three different views. But these views are closer to each other nowadays. Everyone understands that the trends that ruled before 1985 were not taking the country anywhere. That is why were are convinced that perestroyka and reforms are necessary.

The differences arise when we come to the question of how profound the reform process must be, its speed, and the areas it should affect. On matters of detail there are differing views: for example, on the question of whether we need commercial credits. We think the answer is "yes," but the bank thinks it is unnecessary. The bank has won—so far. Do we need more banks, or can we combine everything in a huge bank? They wanted a huge bank, but we backed a solution with several different banks. On this point our line was victorious.

Another bone of contention is state orders of agricultural products. Many of us assert that they will be unnecessary when the new price system comes into force. But many people take the view that the state quotas must be retained. I could list many questions of detail such as these where there is disagreement.

But there is no alternative to perestroyka. On that point there is no disagreement and there is no political opposition. On the whole I believe that we think along the same lines.

[Willersrud] There is a general impression that leading economists like you have acquired increased power in the Soviet Union under Gorbachev. What influence do you yourself have over the political process?

[Aganbegyan] I am no politician. I am neither a member of the Central Committee, nor a member of the Supreme Soviet. Nor do I work inside a political body. My forum is science; I work at the Academy of Sciences.

But it is correct to say scientists and economists have acquired increased influence. This is because in critical periods people turn to science for explanations. That is why my colleagues and I are involved in the process.

As you know, the whole process of perestroyka and the changes in the management system are controlled by a special government commission chaired by Nikolay Talyzin, the head of Gosplan. The commission consists of representatives of all ministries and economic departments and several scientists. I am head of the commission's scientific section, which coordinates the work in all the scientific institutes. All the leading scientists are members of our organization—which means that science has a strong position in the process. Nothing happens without the involvement of the scientists. The nation's leaders meet them and consult with them often. [Aganbegyan ends]

At this point Aganbegyan had to take a telephone call. The phone rings continually, but his secretaries deal with most of the calls. But now he swivels round in his chair and gives short and concise answers into the phone:

"Yes, yes, no, agreed."

[Willersrud] Was that Gorbachev who called?

[Aganbegyan] No, if it had been Mikhail Sergeyevich I would have stood up.

I am head of the Economics Department of the Soviet Academy of Sciences and the only economist who is a member of the Presidium. Since I head economic research I am contacted more often and asked more questions than others. But my role is greater in the Western press than it is in reality. Western newspapers always look for a person. If it is about the 1965 reforms it is Liberman or Kosygin. If it is about today's reforms people talk about Aganbegyan and Zaslavskaya.

In actual fact there is a group of 10-15 people working actively, and, depending on what question it is, the person who knows most about it is the one who steps forward. Gorbachev does not have one, two, or three advisers who do everything. He has a comprehensive network of contacts.

[Willersrud] Finally, we have noted that certain Soviet economists have shown an interest in Sweden recently. To what extent are you inspired by the Swedish model?

[Aganbegyan] Personally, I have unfortunately never before visited Sweden. But my friend Abalkin, who has been there, has given me a great deal of interesting

material. I have made particular note of a very interesting system for taxation and for the encouragement of technical progress, and of social policy.

I am traveling to Sweden with a strong professional interest. I attach such great importance to this visit that I am taking my wife abroad with me for the first time. [Aganbegyan ends]

It is late Friday evening in Aganbegyan's office, but not until the interview is over do the secretaries come into the office. Messages about meetings and lectures buzz through the air, new appointments must be made and others postponed. This trip to Sweden makes a hole in Aganbegyan's packed engagement diary.

Bykov Calls for Improved Trade Strategy

PM101228 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 10 Feb 88 p 14

[Doctor of Economic Sciences Aleksandr Bykov article: "Not by Oil Alone"]

[Text] Since ancient times trade and other exchanges between countries have served as a source of prosperity and progress. At the dawn of capitalism A. Smith and D. Ricardo demonstrated the nature of the growth of national wealth in the course of such exchanges on the basis of the principle of comparative costs, which, with later modifications, to this day forms the methodological basis of the international division of labor and the identification of promising avenues within it.

Do we know how to increase our national wealth through foreign trade and international economic cooperation?

Neither in the past nor in the present has our country been a leader in world trade, although it has held stronger or less strong positions at different times. The young Soviet Russia, through the lips of V.I. Lenin, proclaimed the desire to actively participate in international exchanges, condemned as bankrupt the theory of autarky, and came out in favor of the normalization and development of international economic relations. The practical implementation of these principles has always met with resistance from the forces of imperialism and reaction, and the degree of this resistance is determined first and foremost by the heat of the political confrontation between socialism and capitalism. The West has always sought to use trade with us as an instrument of political pressure. This has led to understandable caution on our side and strengthened the positions of the advocates of economic isolationism.

The postwar period is characterized by the priority development of links with the socialist countries. Economic relations with the West continued to experience periodical ups and downs—depending on the political subtext invested in them in the West. Of course, we also bore a share of the blame for retarding these processes. In Soviet economic planning, which was based on the balance method, for many years the established approach to foreign economic ties was to regard them as a kind of residual sector, where imports were a means of covering internal shortages and exports were regarded as a necessary evil, virtually the price paid for imports. It was easier for departments to obtain currency funds from the state than to take upon themselves the risk of innovations, of mobilizing internal reserves, including reserves for exports. The cost mechanism dominated the economy: It was preferable to store costly imported equipment just in case, to allow it to rot in the stores, than to make investments in your own production facilities. Moreover it was basically the Gosplan or the Foreign Trade Ministry, rather than the client, which was responsible for imports.

The situation was even more complex with exports—the most active and promising element of foreign economic relations. Any economic manager sought, first and foremost, to avoid them as far as possible. After all, you were paid for export output at the same wholesale prices as for output for the domestic market, and the incentives were modest and difficult to secure. Yet the quality of this output had to meet world standards, plus a guarantee of aftersales service. It was much simpler to fulfill and overfulfill the plan for gross output, distributing under contract to the undemanding domestic consumers products they needed and products they did not need, in the full product mix or not, and reporting successes to the higher authorities. It is not surprising that our exports consisted, and consist to this day, mainly of raw materials, chiefly oil and gas. Is this appropriate for a mighty industrial state in the era of the scientific and technical revolution? After all, the primacy in world trade is firmly in the hands of those who offer the best finished goods: machines and equipment, high-technology goods, technical services.

Now that military-strategic equilibrium exists between East and West and encouraging progress has taken shape in disarmament, economic and technological factors will increasingly determine the world status, the degree of influence of any country or region of the world on the development of international relations. This cannot be ignored in defining the prospects for the rivalry between the two systems. The socialist countries, and first and foremost the Soviet Union, cannot stand aloof from the objective process of the international division of labor, whether within or outside the framework of the socialist community.

We have recently adopted large-scale measures to improve the management of foreign economic ties, measures which are intended to eliminate the gulf between the domestic economic system and the foreign market. In 1987 22 sector ministries and departments and 77 associations, enterprises, and organizations were granted the right to carry out export and import operations on the foreign market themselves. This is a major step toward overcoming the defects in the system of foreign economic activity which had grown up since the early

thirties. At the same time the structure of management and coordination of such activity at statewide level has been substantially restructured.

However, as statistics show, the reduction in the country's foreign trade turnover which was observed back in 1985 is continuing. Our exports were and are based on raw material resources, first and foremost oil and gas: They account for some 80 percent of hard currency exports. The steep increase in world prices in the seventies led to an almost 20-fold increase in the price of oil, and it appeared that this situation would persist at least until the end of the century. In that case, why change the export structure and seek new reserves? But also we used currency revenue in far from the most rational way, increasing imports of grain and other food and consumer goods, that is, simply eating all the revenue. Yet it would have been far better to use this money to set up our own production facilities, using imported machinery and foreign production experience. How much was wasted because of thriftlessness, chronic failure to complete projects, and sluggishness in assimilating the new machinery and technology that was acquired....

In a word, we were totally unprepared for the abrupt change in the world market situation in the mid-eighties, when the oil price fell from $34 or more a barrel to $18, with a real trend showing a continuing fall. At the same time, although less steeply, prices fell for gas and other raw materials, apart from certain nonferrous metals and rare earth elements. However, this last group is by no means capable of compensating for the significant losses on oil and gas.

As for the most promising export goods—machines and equipment—they accounted for less than 2 percent of our exports to the West, and that volume is not growing. Only a very miserly proportion is accounted for by "high-tech" goods and modern technical services, which, in the conditions of the scientific and technical revolution, form the basis of export expansion in the United States, Japan, the FRG, and other developed countries, and in recent years also a number of developing countries (the so-called "new industrial" countries). The solution is obvious: a radical restructuring of our export and import structure, the accelerated buildup and diversification of our export resources, and their reorientation away from primary raw materials and toward new machinery and technology, highly processed goods, and various kinds of services. It is a question of a new form of export specialization, taking into account world trends, for our country and for the entire socialist community, to which we are linked by common goals and problems and a common integration process.

Incidentally, more than 60 percent of our foreign trade turnover takes place within the community framework. In recent years this turnover has scarcely grown, because of that same structural barrier, the underdevelopment of production sharing ties, and the weak and cumbersome economic mechanism of cooperation. A correct course has recently been set of shifting the center of gravity in cooperation from the accustomed macrolevel to the microlevel, to direct links between associations and enterprises, the creation of joint enterprises and organizations, the deepening of production sharing, and the reorganization of the structure and nature of CEMA's activity. However, here the restructuring is still proceeding only slowly. Direct ties are primarily formal in nature and take place on instructions from above. Here we are markedly behind the capitalist world, where production sharing ties and the advantages they secure have become the main motive force for world trade and the migration of capital, technology, and manpower.

The restructuring of foreign economic activity, in addition to the old problems which retard the cause, the past mistakes and the unfavorable world market situation whose influence cannot yet be escaped, also faces difficulties of a different kind. It began before the economy had gone over to the new methods of economic management, self-financing, and full economic accountability. All this is to develop on a broad front only this year. When the enterprises become vitally interested in increasing profits and currency earnings, they will seek foreign partners not by order, but on their own initiative.

On the other hand, the restructuring itself requires an influx of many resources of which we are short. Here too the potential of the foreign market, especially in the sphere of obtaining new machinery and technology, investment and other funds, and experience in organizing production and sales, is extremely necessary. So the age-old question arises: Which comes first—the chicken or the egg? Without restructuring the intensification of foreign economic activity cannot take place, but without intensification the restructuring comes to a standstill. It is clear that both are needed, in parallel and in conjunction. Without the egg there will be no chicken, and chickens that do not lay eggs are of no use.

For us, active participation in foreign economic activity also has another kind of significance, a very important disciplinary and mobilizing significance. The world market (to a far greater degree than the as yet "omnivorous" domestic market and CEMA market) is the yardstick of efficiency and quality; there, success goes to those who work more quickly, more productively, better, in conformity with world criteria. The move into this market and the influence of its conditions and requirements bring national production up to world standards. This is extremely necessary to us, especially in view of the fact that internal incentives to achieve those standards are patently insufficient. Hence the need for the gradual, purposeful alignment of domestic production conditions with world conditions in terms of prices, costs, and technical and other parameters and the introduction in future of real exchange rages and convertibility of the ruble, also in relation to capitalist countries' currencies. The convertible ruble will considerably simplify the identification and implementation of promising avenues of cooperation, especially in production sharing forms,

and will link the domestic market directly to the foreign market, although the introduction of this convertibility, even if initially only on a limited scale, requires first of all the restoration of equilibrium between exports and imports in hard currency, the strengthening of the country's export base, and the rationalization of the domestic pricing system.

Internationalization is gathering speed everywhere, and we must not only take part in it "on equal terms" with other countries, but, as V.I. Lenin predicted, we must win. Here we cannot long protect ourselves with the traditional interpretation of the state monopoly or with protectionism, without condemning ourselves to permanent laggardness and even regression. A number of socialist countries formerly proclaimed the principle of "reliance on their own forces," but life rapidly shattered such illusions. China, which was the first to speak of such "self-reliance," was also the first to abandon it, proclaiming the "open door" policy as one of the fundamentals of modernization.

Of course, wide access to the world market, the winning of firm positions there, the creation of an "open economy"—this task cannot be resolved overnight. But it must be tackled without delay. It is unrealistic to expect our producers of machines and equipment immediately to win a worthy place on the very demanding and capricious world market, where the shortages we are used to do not exist, where outsiders can expect a hostile reception, and where you have to learn to integrate with an alien environment and find a "niche" there. But we must learn. While in the United States I saw how the Chinese are literally storming the universities there, above all in specialities relating to "high technology," marketing, and management. But our people are as yet nowhere to be seen. The American market (which, incidentally, is the greediest in the world, sucking up, like a giant pump, literally all the best that is produced) is crammed with Chinese goods, albeit modest goods as yet. The hieroglyphs proclaim Japanese and Chinese manufacture. Us? As yet we are represented only by Stolichnaya, and that only in the backwoods.

The attention we are beginning to devote to the potential for production sharing and joint enterprises on our territory and abroad is quite justified. Some 250 projects are already being studied. Their birth is difficult and shows there is not enough experience or legal documentation. Today more rights in this sphere of activity are being handed over to the sector ministries. But it would be even better to bring the producers themselves more actively into joint enterprise. Yet they often remain aloof. Complaints are still heard to the effect that in defining the product mix for output produced jointly, departments are guided solely by their own plans and current needs. But if we want to take joint products onto the foreign market, where profits in foreign currency have to be earned, we should be guided by the demand on that market, its conditions and requirements, and not at all by purely departmental interests. Our economic building has sustained a great many losses because of departmentalism. We must do everything possible to ensure that this does not damage the new foreign economic initiative too.

In a word, there are still very many problems, each more complex and unusual than the last. The realistic path to their gradual resolution is a correct foreign economic strategy at the top, combined organically with healthy initiative and commitment below, within the common channel of restructuring.

Sector, Territory Management Link Viewed

PM091021 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 5, Jan 88 (signed to press 28 Jan 88) p 19

[Doctor of Economic Sciences V. Leksin article under the rubric "Political and Economic Studies": "New Developments in the Interaction of Sectorial and Territorial Management"]

[Text] The 27th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee June (1987) Plenum emphasized the need to ensure the best possible combination of sectorial and territorial economic management, the comprehensive economic and social development of republics and regions, and the establishment of rational intersector ties.

Territory and Sector: Essence of Relations [subhead]

Let us note at once that sectors and territories are qualitatively different as objects of management, and that these differences concern their most important and essential features—goals, resources, production efficiency. For example, the goal of any sector's development is to manufacture output or services of specified quality through efficient utilization of the resources it receives.

Matters are different for a territory. It is a part of not only the economic but also the social, natural, and cultural-historical potential of the country. The object of management in this context is the comprehensive and balanced development of the territory for the purpose of preserving and augmenting its potential, increasing its contribution to the national wealth, and enhancing the population's prosperity. Finally, let us note that it is the territory which possesses the most experience in self-management, implemented in the activity of various elected organs and primarily the soviets of people's deputies.

Taking this interpretation of a territory's essence and specific nature as a base, its relations with sectors (associations, enterprises, and so on) involve the emergence and resolution of certain contradictions which arise through the relatively unidirectional activity of sectors and the territory's multifaceted comprehensive reproduction task.

Why does this happen? After all, "sectors" and "territory" are not antagonists. They have a single ultimate goal, coinciding with the global goal of the socialist society's development. Why are the relations between "sector" and "territory" such that the task of combining their interests has to be solved at top levels? One of the main reasons is the absence of any real partnership levers and the predominance of mainly administrative methods in the territorial management system, methods which do not even always enjoy legal backing.

What does a territory actually need from a sector, apart from the buildup of production potential on the basis of advanced equipment and technology? Financial revenue for local budgets, production of consumer goods and services (including those for sale in the territory), efficient utilization of territorial resources, environmental protection activity, and economic activity geared to the territory's interests. All this can be planned, and can and must be managed.

Furthermore, this would give enterprises and organizations an opportunity to reflect the appropriate indicators in their own plans, grouping them together, for example, under the subhead "Enterprises' Participation in the Solution of Territorial Socioeconomic Tasks." Let them be responsible for the manufacture of output and its quality. This would constitute a division of the functions of territorial and sectorial management as regards industrial production.

It would be naive, however, to suppose that a clearer demarcation of the functions of territorial and sectorial management will result from a standard directive document regulating what has to be done and how it is to be done in every specific case, from some sort of "superinstruction." The new element of the present stage of our society's development consists of the combination of fundamental goals of independence and enterprising exercise of the right to independent action at the local level.

Territorial Economic Accountability: Theory and Reality [subhead]

The development of economic methods of territorial management, especially in combination with sectorial management, presents one of the most interesting and, at the same time, fairly new aspects of modern economic life. The result of the many years of predominantly budget-based financing of territorial development, the views that economic accountability in the social sphere was theoretically "unacceptable," and the practice of territorial and sectorial interaction according to the principle of informal requests or instructions that were impossible to perform is that a huge stratum of vitally important problems seems to have fallen out of the system of real economic relations.

But the development of economic methods in relations between territorial and sectorial management should not be perceived as a territory's complete transition to self-financing and self-capitalizing. This would put off the task of boosting and equalizing the level of social development in individual regions of the country until some time far in the future, would diminish the activeness of social policy, and would violate the principles of social justice concerning entire regions. The CPSU Central Committee June (1987) Plenum decisions differentiated with the utmost clarity between sectorial and territorial economic accountability and indicated the spheres of territorial-sectorial development where economic methods of management are appropriate and necessary. They include: restructuring the drawing up of republican and local budgets on normative principles as the main condition for consolidating soviets' economic base and linking it to the results of activity of all enterprises situated in the corresponding territory; expanding the range of tasks of regional economic and social development whose solution is financed by local budgets (for example, the building of new enterprises under local jurisdiction and projects in the social and production infrastructure). They also include the stepping up of soviets' economic interest in boosting production of consumer goods; introduction of payments for territorial resources; having local soviets, kolkhozes, and enterprises guarantee loans funded by the personal savings of kolkhoz members, workers, and employees to finance the building of social and cultural projects; and much else.

But the basic feature of the new economic relations between territorial and sectorial management is the strengthening and expansion of their financial-economic ties.

At present, territorial development is largely funded by state allocations which are centrally redistributed. Let us note that even major sectors in the nonproduction sphere which are territorially managed (health care, social security, national education, and others) are still geared primarily to budget-funded activity.

A series of resolutions was adopted recently, especially since the CPSU Central Committee June (1987) Plenum, defining specific measures to enhance the role and responsibility of soviets of people's deputies for the acceleration of their territories' socioeconomic development and indicating the avenues for local organs' interaction with enterprises, associations, ministries, and departments and for the strengthening of soviets' financial base.

With a view to enhancing the economic independence of territorial management and strengthening the economic foundations of its interlinkage with sectorial management, it is planned to increase the proportion of own-resource revenues in territorial budgets and to boost soviets' interest in the growth of the economic efficiency of production on their territory as the basis for forming these revenues.

Deductions from profits (according to stable normatives) from all enterprises located on the territory of a given soviet, regardless of their departmental subordination, will be channeled into local budgets. Moreover, soviets should display more initiative in spending the funds they receive. It has been established, for example, that funds for material and technical resources and quotas for capital investment and for construction and installation work on the development of the republican economy (excluding the agro-industrial complex) will be set for every republic as a whole without being broken down by sectors and avenues.

Detailed decisions have already been adopted to regulate local capital construction, and especially to set up on the territories of autonomous republics, krays, and oblasts—whenever it may be deemed expedient—a single ordering service for the construction of housing, municipal service and cultural and consumer service projects, and intersectorial production projects.

It is common knowledge that a territory's development needs much more than financial resources alone. More often than not there is not a shortage of money but a shortage of construction organization capacities, materials, and equipment, and insufficient assimilation of even existing capital investment funds. It is necessary to set normatives for capital investments backed by material resources, deductions from profits, and so on for the development of the social infrastructure and other objects of territorial management.

All this will create some groundwork for the further development of economic relations between enterprises and territories and for the consistent shaping of specific territorial economic accountability.

Forms of Interaction [subhead]

We have already said there is a division between the functions of territorial and sectorial management. At present this division is assuming appropriate organizational forms. For example, with a view to ensuring the better combination of sectorial and territorial management and boosting the efficiency of work by enterprises and organizations under republican and local jurisdiction whose output and services are mainly utilized on the territory of autonomous republics, krays, oblasts, and cities, permission has been given to set up intersector and interindustry territorial-production associations comprising enterprises and organizations under republican and local jurisdiction. Enterprises and organizations under union jurisdiction could join these associations subject to the agreement of the relevant USSR ministries and departments.

New organizational forms for interaction between sectorial and territorial management are being created in the course of practical work and are being tested in various regions in the country—the Georgian SSR, the Udmurt ASSR, Stavropol Kray, and Tula Oblast. The experience of the setting up of an intersector territorial association in the city of Poti and of its operation has been recognized and recommended for dissemination.

The formation of a territorial housing-municipal service association in Nizhniy Tagil for the purpose of coordinating the development of departmental and city social infrastructure ought to be perceived as a new step in the development of territorial-sectorial integration and the setting up of interindustry complexes directly subordinate to soviets.

The organizational structures of territorial organs themselves need improvement. Main production-economic administrations are being set up under krayispolkoms and oblispolkoms headed by first deputy ispolkom chairmen. Suggestions have been made that these administrations ought to incorporate planning commissions under the leadership of deputy ispolkom chairmen.

The purpose of the administrations is to elaborate and ensure the fulfillment of comprehensive plans for economic and social development and be responsible for the balanced development of production and the social sphere. They have been assigned the task of leading all economic work, actively involving local financial, banking, statistical, and other organs in this work, and coordinating the activity of krayispolkom and oblispolkom administrations (departments). Their tasks also include coordinating the activity of enterprises, associations, and organizations and giving them practical assistance in plan fulfillment.

A review is now under way of a range of questions whose solution rests with union and autonomous republic gosplans. It is envisaged that some of their functions will be transferred to sectorial and local management organs.

The aforementioned organizational forms are being adapted to suit the specific nature of various territorial-sectorial formations. Moscow's rayons, for example—being administrative-territorial units whose population, science and production potential, and social infrastructure are equal to those of the country's major cities—have set up departments for comprehensive economic and social development whose functions are similar to those of main production-economic administrations.

The restructuring of the management system at republican and local levels is implemented as the necessary prerequisites are created and experience of work in the new conditions is accumulated. It is necessary to ensure close interlinkage of measures for restructuring the organizational structures of management and for strengthening the production and science and production associations with the transition to economic methods of management and transfer of enterprises and associations to full economic accountability and self-financing.

Scientific

Space Mission Protocol Signed With Afghanistan

LD111733 Moscow TASS in English 1719 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow February 11 TASS—A joint Soviet-Afghan manned space mission will be carried out in August this year.

The names of the Afghan cosmonaut and his standby will be known tomorrow after the final consideration by the main expert and medical commission, Aleksandr Dunayev, head of the Chief Administration for the Development and Use of Space Engineering for the Economy and Research (Glavkosmos), told newsmen today.

A protocol on training and carrying out the joint mission on board the Soviet orbital research complex Mir (Peace) was signed at Glavkosmos today.

The flight programme provides for experiments on remote probing of the earth, including photography of individual areas of Afghanistan and medical and biological studies.

Glavkosmos Chief on Plans

LD111846 Moscow TASS in English 1808 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow February 11 TASS—A joint Soviet-Afghan manned space mission will take place next August.

The names of the Afghan cosmonaut and his standby will be known tomorrow when the main medical examination commission makes its conclusion, Aleksandr Dunayev, chief of the Soviet space agency Glavkosmos, told newsmen today.

Also today, a protocol on the joint expedition aboard the Soviet orbiting platform Mir was signed at Glavkosmos, which is the Main Administration for the Development and Use of Space Technology for the Economy and Research.

The protocol was signed by Dunayev and Muhammad Aslam Watanjar, a member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and Afghan communications minister.

The flight programme provides for experiments on remote sensing of the earth, which will focus on individual areas in Afghanistan, and medical and biological studies.

"Our joint mission will definitely make for still stronger friendship between our two peoples. It will be a favorable factor in our relations, both politically and economically," he said.

Vladimir Shatalov, head of the Yuriy Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center, said the Soviet foreign spacemen were prepared to admit Afghan representatives into their friendly circle.

He said the center had over recent years become a veritable international space academy which had trained nine representatives of socialist countries as well as France, India and Syria.

"Together with Afghan specialists we have drawn up a list of experiments which will help economic development in Afghanistan," said Yevgeniy Bogomolov, department head at Glavkosmos.

Dunayev said the year would be particularly busy, with three manned missions planned, including a Soviet-Bulgarian one in June and a Soviet-French one in November.

Afghan Minister Comments

LD112126 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] In Moscow today a protocol on training and conducting a joint Soviet-Afghan space flight this year has been signed. The USSR Glavkosmos [Chief Administration for the Development and Use of Space Engineering for the Economy and Research] where the signing of the document took place has been visited by Aleksander Korshunov. Over to him now:

[Korshunov] The protocol was signed by Dunayev, head of the Glavkosmos, on the Soviet side, and by Watanjar, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and minister of communication, on the Afghan side. Here are a few words about events leading up to the experiment:

A fundamental agreement on conducting a joint flight was reached as early as October last year. Afghan candidates were then to be selected from among both those pilots who were studying in the USSR and those Afghan pilots who lived in their own country. In January, our medics went to Kabul. As a result, eight people were selected. They will be the ones who will take part in the final selection procedures. Providence, or rather the chief medical commission, must tommorrow decide on the final two pilots. The program for the joint flight—it will take place in August—has been composed by the two countries' scientists and experts. For example, about 10 experiments on remote sounding of the earth are intended. Most of them will be conducted in the interests of the Afghan economy, and a medical experiment will also be conducted. What will be involved here is the adaptation of a human body under conditions of weightlessness. It has not been ruled out that the list of experiments will be extended and made more precise. There is still time. This is how the importance of the signed protocol on the forthcoming agreement has been assessed by the leader of the Afghan delegation:

[Begin Watanjar recording in vernacular with superimposed Russian translation] Today we have signed a document that not only contributes to the development of scientific cooperation between our countries but will also help to strengthen the friendship between the USSR and Afghanistan. The general situation and atmosphere in which this has happened is especially noteworthy. I have in mind the statement of the Soviet leader who announced the deadline for the withdrawal of Soviet troops, provided third countries stop interfering in Afghan affairs. The whole world has again had an opportunity to see the extent of the closeness and sincerity of our friendship. It has been tested by hardships and by real actions. We will never forget your country's internationalist help, and we will always be grateful for this to the Soviet Union and its people. [end recording]

Further Afghan, Soviet Remarks

LD120139 Moscow World Service in English 2110 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] The first ever joint Soviet-Afghan space flight has been scheduled for next August. An official protocol to this effect has been signed in Moscow. A Radio Moscow reporter has interviewed a member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the PDPA, Minister of Communications Muhammad Aslam Watanjar. What will be the future flight's practical significance to Afghanistan?

[Begin recording, in Dari with superimposed English translation] Afghanistan has rich natural resources—copper, oil, gas, and iron. It is vital to determine the exact location and size of these deposits; that can be done from space. Besides, space photography will be used to lay out farms, develop a network of highways, and find the best places for various economic facilities. At present, national reconciliation is gaining strength in my country; we hope that peace will return to Afghanistan soon. The flight of Afghanistan's first ever cosmonaut and his work in space will be of great importance to restoring the economy and determining priorities in the economy and research. [end recording]

Alongside Soviet cosmonauts, representatives of nine socialist countries, and also France, India, and Syria, have so far conducted research aboard Soviet orbital stations. Another Soviet-Bulgarian flight has been scheduled for June and a Soviet-French mission for November. This year, three foreign cosmonauts will make experiments and conduct research aboard the Mir orbiting laboratory.

The chief of the Soviet space center, Vladimir Shatalov, has revealed some of the details of how Afghan cosmonauts are preparing for the flight.

[Begin Shatalov recording, in Russian with superimposed English translation] Afghanistan has selected top class pilots with a good command of Russian. In the first round, 19 candidates were chosen out of 50. A series of strict medical and professional checkups and tests left eight candidates. Two candidates for the space mission will be nominated in several days. At the Soviet space center, they will undergo theoretical and practical training and be instructed on the use of their spacecraft and the Mir space station. [end recording]

'Mir' Cosmonauts' Work Schedule Reported

LD121158 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1125 GMT 12 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow, 12 Feb (TASS)—"The latest working week on board the Mir orbital complex is coming to an end for Vladimir Titov and Musa Manarov.

"In the last few days the cosmonauts have been engaged in unloading the Progress-34 craft, have carried our scheduled maintenance of the systems and equipment on the complex, and have done several series of experiments on research into space materials.

The crew is undergoing medical observations today. This includes measurement of body mass and assessing the condition of the muscles, which are under little load in weightlessness, and investigating the cardio-vascular system.

The day's schedule provides for the preparation of the Glazar ultraviolet telescope for forthcoming experiments.

Vladimir Titov and Musa Manarov feel well.

"The Mir manned complex is at present flying in an orbit with the following parameters:

apogee—371 km; perigee—337 km; period of revolution—91.3 minutes; orbital inclination—51.6°.

Bulgarian Equipment Involved in Phobos Study

LD111507 Moscow TASS in English 1449 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Sofia February 11 TASS—By TASS correspondent Vladimir Matyash:

Bulgaria will take an active part in the international Phobos project involving 12 countries and the European Space Agency and aiming to study the Martian moon Phobos in detail.

A space probe launched to orbit the red planet's natural satellite will be carrying two Bulgarian system, the video spectrometer Fregat and the laser-based pulse mass analyzer Lima-D.

It will not be an exaggeration to say that it will mostly depend on Fregat whether mankind will receive television imagery from Phobos since that system will be sending a stream of TV pictures back to earth.

Along with research, Fregat will be responsible also for a navigational task connected with the need to "spot" Phobos in the universe and guide the probe there and back.

A special TV system will be recording the telemetry imagery to be received by ground stations for several months.

The challenging technological job has been tackled by the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences' Institute for Space Studies and Research and industrial organizations in Varna, Shumen and Pleven.

The Lima-D system has drawn praise from Soviet and foreign experts as well. It will find out the makeup of the surface on Phobos. The bulk of work in developing the system has been handled by a science-and-production organization in Kyrdzhali in South Bulgaria.

Nine sophisticated systems devised in Bulgaria for peaceful space research will be tested this year during the second Soviet-Bulgarian space mission.